

Bush: U.S., Syria on same side

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine (R) — U.S. President George Bush and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, having pledged to resist Iraqi military moves in the Gulf, said Sunday they were on the same side for change. Bush telephoned the Syrian leader Sunday for what the president called "a good talk", and to thank Assad for his willingness to use Syrian forces to "protect" the Gulf states from Iraq. "I told him I am very pleased we're looking at this in the same way," Bush said of the phone call. Bush dispatched U.S. troops to Saudi Arabia last week, saying he hoped they would be the vanguard of a multinational force. Talking to reporters after attending church near his seacoast holiday home, Bush said he also told Assad of his "delight" at the Arab summit decision Friday to form an Arab force to help Saudi Arabia. According to Bush, Assad replied in kind. "He told me essentially the same. That he was pleased to be together on this," Bush said.

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U.S. embassy denies 'evacuation'

AMMAN (J.T.) — The American embassy in Amman Sunday denied what it described as rumours that embassy staff were being evacuated. "The embassy has become aware of rumours that say embassy staff are departing Amman," said Jonathan Owens, spokesman for the mission. "These rumours are false." Owens told the Jordan Times. "The embassy is not being evacuated. Embassy operations are proceeding on a normal basis. Private American citizens working for certain embassy offices have departed, but they have done so on their own initiative. The embassy did not advise them to leave."

Bush orders CIA to destabilise Iraq

NEW YORK (R) — U.S. President George Bush has ordered the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to destabilise the government of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein by any means short of assassination, Newsweek magazine said Sunday. Without citing a source for the information, the magazine said while the publicly-stated objective of U.S. troop involvement in the Gulf is to block Iraqi expansion, the "secret" objective is to drive him (Saddam) out of power. "The magazine said, also without mentioning a source, that Bush had 'signed an intelligence 'finding' ordering the CIA to do what it can to destabilise Iraq politically and get rid of Saddam by almost any means short of killing him."

Kelly in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — U.S. Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly arrived in Cairo from Saudi Arabia Sunday to discuss the Gulf crisis. "My talks with the Egyptian government (will be) about the Middle East crisis and the Gulf in this critical time," he told reporters at Cairo airport. Kelly, who plans a two-day stay in Egypt, said he met Kuwait's exiled emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, during his visit to Saudi Arabia.

King Hassan meets political leaders

RABAT (R) — King Hassan of Morocco conferred Sunday with the leaders of seven pro-government and opposition parties amid expectation of an announcement on the dispatch of Moroccan troops to the Gulf. The official news agency MAP did not report the purpose of the meeting at the seaside palace in Sakhrat, south of Rabat, which was also attended by Prime Minister Azeddine Laraki and other members of the cabinet. The king usually consults the parties before making important policy decisions.

Egypt to tighten security

CAIRO (R) — Egypt will step up security at all diplomatic missions, government buildings, hotels and other potential targets in Cairo to thwart possible violence arising from the Gulf crisis, security sources said Sunday. "These measures are aimed in the first place to protect and secure these embassies and important institutions in addition to protecting Arabs and foreigners present in Egypt," one source told Egypt's Middle East News Agency.

Algeria calls day of protest

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria's ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) Sunday denounced foreign intervention in the Gulf and called for a nationwide protest on Aug. 20. A statement carried by the news agency AFS said the FLN "calls on all activists and Mujahideen (ex-guerrilla fighters) to make Aug. 20 a day of protest against the presence of these foreign troops and demand their withdrawal." The FLN, which led Algeria's eight-year war for independence from France, faces an uphill struggle to stop Muslim fundamentalists taking power in parliamentary elections set for next year.

Iraq announces initiative to end all occupation in Mideast

Plan aims at 'restoring comprehensive peace,' involves Israeli withdrawal, Syrian pullout and U.S. departure

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — President Saddam Hussein Sunday declared readiness to resolve the Gulf crisis if Israel withdraws from occupied Arab territories, Syria pulls out of Lebanon and U.S. forces leave Saudi Arabia. He suggested the American and Western forces that converged on the neighbouring kingdom after Iraq took over Kuwait Aug. 2 be replaced by an Arab force that excludes Egyptian troops.

A spokesman for Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir rejected Saddam's proposal for an Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza Strip. "There was no immediate response from Syria, but it has resisted past appeals for pulling out its forces from Lebanon. The Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) Rome office said Sunday that Saddam had opened the way for an overall solution of problems in the Middle East. "The PLO believes this is the opportune moment to find solutions to all of the problems in the Middle East," said the statement issued by PLO representative Nemer Hammad.

Saddam urges Iraqi women to adopt belt-tightening measures

Iraq says Arab pilots ready for suicide attacks

NICOSIA (Agencies) — The Iraqi News Agency said Sunday a group of Arab pilots had offered to stage suicide attacks on U.S. warships in the Gulf. The agency said "The Jules Jammal Group," sent a cable to President Saddam Hussein "affirming its determination to die as martyrs to preserve Iraq and Arab and Muslim holy shrines." It recalled that Jules Jammal carried out a suicide mission in 1956 during the French, British and Israeli attack on Egypt. The agency gave no other details about the group.

Mubarak retracts remarks that no hope for Gulf peace

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak Sunday denied he said war was the only way to end the Iraqi-Kuwaiti crisis, and said fighting must be avoided at all costs. Speaking to reporters at Alexandria airport before the departure of Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, Mubarak also called Arab unity "as changeable as the weather." His comments concerning an end to the Iraqi crisis appeared to play down pessimistic remarks he made a day earlier when he said there was no hope for a peaceful solution to the problem. He said all efforts were being made to solve the crisis arising out of Iraq's take-over of Kuwait.

Pro-Iraq sentiments boosted

BEIRUT (R) — Thousands of Palestinian refugees, including armed guerrilla fighters, marched Sunday in a South Lebanon refugee camp vowing allegiance to Iraq and vengeance against the United States. Witnesses said the Palestinians, carrying pictures of Iraqi, Libyan and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leaders and brandishing machine-guns, marched in 'Ain Al Hilweh camp near Sidon to protest against the deployment of Western troops in the Gulf. In Yemen, for the second consecutive day, pro-Iraq demonstrators gathered outside the U.S. and Saudi embassies in Sanaa. Protests were less violent than

on Iraq after the take-over of Kuwait should be implemented also against any country that fails to abide by the Security Council's decision on the Israeli-occupied territories, Lebanon and territories occupied during the 1980-88 Gulf war. His proposal called for the "immediate withdrawal of American forces and all other forces that responded to this plot from Saudi Arabia, to be replaced by an Arab force." He stressed the nationality of these forces would be decided after consulting both Iraq and Saudi Arabia, and that "it should not include any troops from Egypt." Saddam said the United States was using Egypt as a launching pad for "its conspiracies against the Arabs." Earlier, Iraq's Defence Ministry newspaper Al Qadisiyah attacked Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak as a "dirty agent" working on behalf of "U.S. and Zionist overlords." Anti-Egyptian sentiment in Iraq has been on the increase since Egypt decided to join in a multinational force organised by the United States ostensibly to

PLO denies voting against summit resolution

TUNIS (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Sunday denied having voted against an Arab summit resolution on the Gulf crisis in Cairo Friday and said it had abstained. "The vote took place in indescribable disorder and the PLO abstained on the resolution presented by Oman," a PLO spokesman told Reuters.

"Instead of submitting another proposal by the PLO to a vote and continuing debate until unanimity, as called for by the Arab League Charter, (Egyptian) President Hosni Mubarak ended the session," he said. Egypt had previously said the PLO, Iraq and Libya had voted against the summit resolution which denounced Iraq's take-over of Kuwait, sanctioned the deployment of foreign troops and called for the despatch of an Arab force to help "protect" Saudi Arabia. Twelve Arab countries voted for the resolution while two expressed reservations and Jordan, Algeria and Yemen abstained. PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat charged Sunday a PLO proposal to solve the Gulf crisis without foreign intervention had been deliberately pushed aside at the summit. "Proposals were presented by Arab leaders and Palestinians to reach an Arab solution to the Gulf crisis without foreign intervention," he said after meeting Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali.

"But unfortunately they were not put to a vote for reasons independent of our will." A Palestinian spokesman said Saturday Arafat had proposed a mediation committee composed of Algeria, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the PLO, Yemen and Jordan. Mubarak denied this. "I continue to think, as I agreed with Ben Ali, the only way to save the Arab Nation from catastrophe that threatens its security and existence is our capacity to solve our problems on the Arab level," Arafat said. Separately, the Palestinian news agency Wafa said Arafat on Sunday sent messages to Soviet and Chinese leaders citing the "serious developments in the Middle East arising from the intervention of foreign forces in Arab affairs."

King orders civil defence, military training for citizens

Monarch reviews Gulf situation with parliament members

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has called on Jordanians to intensify their efforts to protect the homeland and stressed the need to cement cohesion within the Jordanian family and to safeguard national unity. King Hussein also announced that he had issued directives to the government to immediately work out and implement plans for training on civil defence operations. Addressing members of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament at a meeting held at the Royal Court, King Hussein said the government would open centres for training in the civil defence and first aid operations. He said he had also directed the concerned authorities of the People's Army to take appropriate measures to open centres for military training.

Jordan Television said the government subsequently issued instructions to the Civil Defence Department (CDD) to start working out plans for training the citizens and to reactivate civil defence committees in various districts of the Kingdom. Other directives were issued Sunday for opening centres to train people in first-aid operations. Jordan Television said the People's Army will take the necessary measures to open military training centres in all towns and villages in the Kingdom. In his meeting with the Senate and Lower House members, the King reviewed the current situation in the Gulf region, which, he said, "has now entered a very critical stage." "The present explosive situation is threatening the whole region and resulted from the massing of foreign military forces on Arab soil," the King said. Reviewing the roots and causes of the Gulf crisis and its various stages, the King said: "An Arab border

problem has been transformed into a major and dangerous confrontation with international consequences." The King said the "fast-moving international developments have disrupted all Arab efforts and prevented Arab countries from containing the border issue and stopped the Arabs from finding a proper solution." "The policy and these plans were implemented under the pretext of safeguarding the United Nations Charter and the international laws," the King said. "We declare that we are keen on honouring and safeguarding international laws and principles but we ask why the international community did not display a similar keenness with regard to Israel's occupation of Palestinian, Syrian and Lebanese land," he said. "I do not have any interpretation for this contradiction except that the industrialised nations are determined to reshape the map of our region which contains two thirds of the

King poses soul-searching questions to Arab World

AMMAN (Petra) — Following is the full text of His Majesty King Hussein's speech to the emergency Arab summit held in Cairo Friday: "I did not wish to write a speech for this meeting of ours in this extraordinary summit. But after listening to what my brothers had to say I feel it is my duty to participate by talking about the present stage which I consider to be the most dangerous stage our nation is living through or ever lived so far. "With due respect to all brothers

and to the opinions expressed, the matter is not only limited to the crisis under discussion. It also is not limited to one particular part of the Arab World. The issue as I see it is the resultant of what we lived lately of changes and developments in the world as a whole. We hoped that these changes would be the starting point for people everywhere to head towards stability, progress and prosperity. We also had great hopes that our Arab causes in this part of the world would be afforded what they deserve of attention and care

considering their gravity to the Arab World which contains the energy resources that make the lifeline of nations and people everywhere. "The equation between world nations has changed. But the final picture is not yet clear. And despite the change that we see and watch, the old dangers and the challenges that we confronted are still there. In fact new dangers were added to the old ones and that put greater responsibility on our shoulders. On top of these old



A scene from Sunday's demonstration at Mafrak (photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

Thousands demonstrate in Mafrak in support of Iraq

By Mariam M. Shahin and P.V. Vivekanand
MAFRAQ — Thousands of Jordanians Sunday staged a demonstration in this northern town in support of the policies of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and condemning the U.S.-led Western troop deployment in Saudi Arabia. The rally, attended by about 15,000 people, was the latest in a series of pro-Iraq demonstrations in Jordan after Iraqi forces took over Kuwait and Washington responded by landing troops in Saudi Arabia with the ostensible purpose of defending the kingdom. The demonstrators chanted anti-American, anti-Saudi and anti-Egyptian slogans and pledged support for Iraq in its confrontation with the U.S. Wielding Iraqi, Jordanian and Palestinian flags and hoisting posters of Saddam Hussein, the crowd burned Amer-

ican flags, shouted slogans, hoisted banners and sang nationalist songs in enthusiasm rarely witnessed in recent years and further boosted by the presence of dozens of foreign television cameras and journalists. The crowd gathered at a half-built football stadium in the town and pledged to "fight to save the Arab Nation against all imperialist-Zionist-colonialist plots against the Arabs" and to "burn the soil under the feet of any aggressor who dares to trespass Arab lands." The "confrontation rally," organised by the newly-formed "Arab Nationalist Democratic Coalition," was also attended by a large number of members of the Muslim Brotherhood, an ideological foe of the mostly leftist democratic coalition. (Continued on page 3)

Israeli peace camp may stop PLO contacts

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Leading Israeli peace activists said Sunday they might cut off their dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) over its support for Iraq in the Gulf crisis.

"The PLO can't enjoy both worlds. I cannot side with someone who wants to destroy Israel with chemical weapons and negotiate peace for Palestinians with Israel," Elazar Granot, chairman of the small Socialist Mapam Party, told Reuters.

"Assume there will be sanctions," he said, adding that peace groups were already cancelling planned meetings with PLO representatives.

In 1988 Mapam became Israel's first Zionist party to endorse negotiations with the PLO. The Israeli government has outlawed contact with the PLO.

Dedi Zucker, a member of parliament from the leftists Citizens Rights Movement, said the peace camp considered the PLO's position "hypocritical."

"The PLO has started a new approach which might be disastrous for both peoples — by choosing Saddam as their leader they will lose the peace process in Israel," he said.

While most Arab states have condemned the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, the PLO has avoided doing so.

Granot said PLO contacts in Tunis told Israeli peace activists the organisation was deeply divided over its position on Iraq's take-over of Kuwait.

He said PLO support for Iraq at an emergency Arab summit on

Friday had infuriated Egypt, which has been trying to arrange the first-ever Palestinian-Israeli peace talks.

Thousands of Palestinian refugees, including armed guerrillas, marched Sunday in a South Lebanon refugee camp vowing allegiance to Baghdad and vengeance against Washington.

Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip waging an uprising against Israeli rule initially celebrated Iraq's take-over.

They hung pictures of Saddam in the occupied territories and slogans said he would redeem Palestine. On Saturday Palestinians protested in the streets to support Iraq. They condemned the West and leaders of oil-rich Gulf states.

The Arabic and Israeli press said Palestinians were naming their newborn babies Saddam in honour of the Iraqi leader.

But the unified leadership of the uprising, which is backed by the PLO, toned down its support Sunday, calling for an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and a resolution among the Arab states. It opposed the U.S. military build-up in the Gulf.

"All of us here, the Palestinians, we are against any kind of occupation but we are not sure if the Americans are here to defend legitimate international interests or for another matter," said Faisal Al Hussein, a leading Palestinian nationalist.

Many Palestinians resented the ousted Kuwaiti royal family because they felt it discriminated against Palestinian workers in the

oil industry and did not do enough to support their cause.

The PLO also risks losing aid from Gulf Arab states and the financial support of Gulf-based Palestinians for siding with Iraq, Arab diplomats in Abu Dhabi said Sunday.

"Regardless of the reason for his stand, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat could lose millions of dollars given by Gulf states and Palestinians working there," one diplomat told Reuters.

About 700,000 Palestinians in the Gulf, where wages are not normally taxed, pay a special five per cent "income tax, which is deducted by Gulf governments and paid to the PLO.

Total payments are estimated at around \$50 million a year.

Palestinians in the Gulf appear to have mixed feelings about Iraqi actions and the PLO's response.

"Arafat is not right. Just imagine if the Gulf states decided to stop all these funds," said a Palestinian resident of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Arafat's support for Iraq's take-over of Kuwait, where almost half of all Gulf Palestinians live, sparked a rare expression of protest against the PLO leader by Gulf Palestinians.

"We denounce the criminal Iraq invasion of Kuwait... we also condemn the negative stand of the PLO leadership in the crisis in the Gulf, which has never hesitated in helping the Palestinian people in their struggle," 200 Palestinians in the UAE said in a petition sent to news organisations Sunday.

Saddam Hussein rekindles embers of Arab nationalism

By Philip Shehadi
Reuters

ALGIERS — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is rekindling embers of Arab nationalism from Mauritania to Yemen with a show of Arab defiance of the West unparalleled since the heyday of Gamal Abdul Nasser 30 years ago.

For many Arabs the main issue in the Gulf has shifted from Iraq's take-over of Kuwait to Saddam's lone stand against the military and economic might of the industrialised world.

Many ordinary Arabs find in him a rare example of action and courage giving hope to a people pained by a feeling of military and political impotence.

The 1973 war, in which Egyptian and Syrian forces shattered Israel's aura of invincibility, gave Arabs optimism they would recover Israeli-occupied land and led to an oil-price explosion.

While a few Arabs gained un-dreamed of oil wealth, most remain poor and Israel, with massive support from Washington, is now stronger than ever.

The Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories has failed to yield tangible gains, despite a heavy toll in Arab lives, and the United States is perceived as doing nothing to advance Arab-Israeli peace.

Moscow's rapprochement with the West has left Arabs feeling more isolated than ever.

"In Saddam Arabs see a man of action, the first leader in years to shape events rather than submitting to them," said an Algerian civil servant.

In conversations about Saddam the name of Nasser springs to many lips. The former Egyptian president was the incarnation of an Arab renaissance in the 1950s and 1960s who dared challenge the West and Israel.

While most Arab leaders at Friday's Cairo summit denounced the take-over of Kuwait and sanc-

tioned U.S. military intervention in Saudi Arabia, public opinion in several countries appeared to be rallying behind Saddam.

Thousands stormed the U.S. and Saudi embassies in the Yemeni capital Sana'a, police intervened after an anti-American protest in the Mauritanian capital Nouakchott, and Palestinians and Jordanians shouted allegiance to Saddam.

In Khartoum and Tripoli, the capitals of Sudan and Libya, thousands marched to demand a U.S. withdrawal.

In the cafes of Didonche Mourad Street in central Algiers, the Gulf crisis dominated conversation. Sympathy ran overwhelmingly with Saddam.

"We are with Saddam because he took a position and refused to cede despite all the pressure of the world's biggest powers," said Said, a journalist.

Saddam has himself sought to exploit Arab public opinion, appealing over the heads of Arab rulers to ordinary citizens crushed by poverty and despair.

Poorer Arabs bitterly resent

the massive wealth held by Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and other Gulf Arab states which Iraq has branded corrupt and greedy U.S. agents.

Tumbling oil prices in the mid-1980s helped trigger an economic crisis in Algeria, a smaller oil producer, where people are all too ready to blame the Gulf oil giants for keeping prices low through high output.

Left for dead after the 1967 Arab defeat by Israel and the rise of conservative Gulf Arab monarchies during the 1970s oil boom, militant Arab nationalism still finds a receptive chord among the masses.

Saddam's own ruling Baath (renaissance) party sprang from 1960s nationalist ideology that now laces his speeches, along with calls to defend Muslim holy places from infidel threats.

"Saddam Hussein is playing on Arab public opinion as his main support," wrote the editor of Algeria's afternoon Horizons Saturday. "It remains to be seen how much this Arab opinion weighs in the balance."

Bush vows to block Iraqi oil flow by sea

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine (R) — President George Bush, stepping up economic pressure on Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, has vowed to use naval force if necessary to keep Iraqi oil from passing through the Strait of Hormuz for sale of foreign markets.

Bush, who has been leading efforts to impose economic sanctions on Iraq because of its take-over of Kuwait Aug. 2, avoided the use of the word "blockade" but made it clear the Arab state's oil exports would be shut down.

"I have made a decision in principle... that exports from Iraq will not get into the market," Bush said Saturday following a meeting at his holiday home here

with Secretary of State James Baker.

"What we want to do is see that no oil comes out through the Strait of Hormuz," Bush said. "If it requires naval vessels to see that happens, fine."

He said he did not want to use the word "blockade" because that might upset other countries who have been cooperating in economic sanctions against Iraq.

"I'm just not one who flamboyantly believes in throwing a lot of words around. I'm more interested in action," he said.

The White House said shipments of Iraqi oil through Saudi Arabia and Turkey have been shut down.

Partial text of Iraqi initiative

NICOSIA (R) — Following is a partial-text of proposals made by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in a message broadcast on Baghdad Radio and television Sunday.

Translated by Reuters:

Text:

As a contribution on our part to create an atmosphere of real peace in the region and to facilitate... a state of stability, and to expose the falsity of America and its disfigured ally, Israel, as well as its small agents and their crimes against the nation, and affirming our right from a position of strength, we decided to present the following initiative:

"The United States of America... lost its mind when Kuwaitis and Iraqis decided to restore what had been torn apart by the British colonialist... whereby Kuwait was part of Iraq until World War I.

"Iraq has never accepted the colonialist crime.

"America started to mass military fleets and squadrons of aircraft and beat the drum of war against Iraq under the pretext of confronting the Iraqi threat to Saudi Arabia.

"Because the spark of war, if started, will burn many and create great tragedies... to put the facts to world public opinion and the Western one in particular, and to unveil the falsity of America's allegations that it is championing the causes and rights of peoples and seeking to safeguard peace... I propose that all issues of occupation, in the whole area should be resolved on the same basis and principles as put forward by the Security Council.

1. Laying down arrangements for withdrawal in accordance with one principle — "For an immediate and unconditional Israeli pull-out from the occupied Arab territories in Palestine, Syria and Lebanon, the withdrawal of Syria from Lebanon and withdrawal between Iraq and Iran, in addition to laying down arrangements for the case of Kuwait.

"The military withdrawal should take place on a schedule that should apply in all cases... taking into consideration Iraq's historical rights to its land and the choice of the Kuwaiti people."

"An implementation of this withdrawal programme should begin with the occupation that took place first... and subsequently a successive implementation of all resolutions issued by the Security Council and the United Nations related to all these cases, until we reach the last case (Iraqi occupation of Kuwait).

"The same measures adopted by the security council towards Iraq should also be applied to whoever does not abide by or respond positively to this arrangement.

2. "To put matters... in front of the world public opinion to judge under objective conditions and away from American pressure, we call for the immediate withdrawal from Saudi Arabia of American and other forces that have responded to its conspiracy.

"These should be replaced by Arab forces whose volume, nationality, duties and areas of presence between Iraq and Saudi Arabia should be defined by the Security Council, assisted by the United Nations secretary general.

"... These forces should not include any from Egypt, whose government was used by America as a crutch in its conspiracy against the Arab Nation..."

3. "An immediate freeze on all resolutions dealing with sanctions and blockade against Iraq, and economic, political and scientific dealings between Iraq and world countries be restored to normal. These resolutions should only be discussed or implemented against whoever violates the above mentioned points.

"In all cases, and if America, its allies and small agents do not respond to our initiative we will strongly resist, with the support of the good sons of the Arab Nation and the great Iraqi people, its evil intentions and aggressive plots.

"Victory is ours with God's help.

"The evil men will regret their act after they are driven out from the region with a curse trailing behind them."

Rafsanjani urges military readiness

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani Sunday urged the military to remain prepared for any eventuality in the Gulf crisis and said foreign forces had turned the region into a "powder keg," Tehran Radio reported.

"We must always maintain our military preparedness and defensive capabilities in order to safeguard the security of the region, our revolution, and our interests," the radio quoted him as saying.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, said he was speaking to a group of military political and recruitment officers.

"The presence of foreign forces has inflamed the Persian Gulf and the region has become like a powder keg," Rafsanjani added.

"Our armed forces have a very important responsibility for a region which could plunge into turmoil at any moment," the radio quoted him as saying.

Rafsanjani said his country was "concerned about the future."

The state-run radio said in a commentary Saturday that Tehran will not tolerate any change in the geography of the region, and warned that "Iran will undoubtedly not remain a spectator if this situation continues."

After Iraq's take-over of Kuwait earlier this month, a U.S.-led multinational force was deployed in Saudi Arabia to deter any further advances, and Arab leaders agreed Friday in Cairo also to send a multinational force to oppose Iraq.

Rafsanjani said avarice was behind the Iraqi take-over. He added that it was predictable that such a move would lead to deployment of foreign forces in the region.

"The fight is over conquest of a treasure, and this act is one of Iraq's more abominable acts,"

Rafsanjani said.

He condemned the West and the United States, euphemistically called "arrogance" by Iranian officials, for backing Iraq during its eight-year war with Iran.

He said that the West's fear of Iran's Islamic revolution — which Tehran was threatening to unleash in the region — had been the main reason for backing Iraq.

But he added that since oil-rich "Kuwait is a treasure coveted by global arrogance, everyone has risen against the invaders."

"This region is the main source of energy for the world; the world is dependent on this region, and it cannot simply relinquish it," he said.

The Iranians have been among the harshest critics of foreign intervention in the Gulf.

Tehran Radio indicated Saturday that Iran was willing to cooperate with other Gulf states to put pressure on Iraq.

"Iran is prepared for any kind of cooperation with the countries of the region which may restore peace and tranquillity and prevent the presence and influence of the superpowers in the 'Persian Gulf,' the state-run radio said.

But the radio commentary later Saturday said the U.S. military presence in the region was "illegal, and in violation of international law."

The Iranians insist that the crisis must be solved by the regional countries.

Iran, whose forces are among the most battle-hardened against any Iraqi onslaught, has not indicated whether it is prepared to send troops to fight alongside the multinational forces.

But Tehran Television, also monitored in Nicosia, said Iran's Supreme Security Council warned Saturday that "Iran is prepared to protect its interests under all conditions."

Aziz says foreigners are safe

BAGHDAD (R) — Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz said Sunday that all foreigners in Iraq, said by the West to be virtual hostages, were safe.

"They are safe inside their houses and they live in peace and also in the hotels and they are being contacted by their diplomats," Aziz told a news conference in the Iraqi capital.

His statement came as the Iraqi news agency (INA), quoting a presidential spokesman, said Arabs and foreigners living in Kuwait cities could leave if they wished. INA did not mention foreigners in Iraq.

Aziz said Baghdad had taken "temporary precautionary measures" because of the Gulf crisis.

Iraq closed all its frontiers after its troops invaded Kuwait Aug. 2 and most Westerners have been unable to leave.

Any attempt by the United States to use its forces to stop Iraqi oil tankers in the Gulf would be considered "an act of aggression against Iraq," the minister said.

Asked whether he expected a U.S. attack on Iraq, Aziz said: "It is very possible and we will not ignore it but we will defeat it with the will of the Iraqis and the will of the Arab people."

He added that Iraq was accepting volunteers for its army from other Arab countries and was ready for everything.

Supporters of President Saddam Hussein say they have registered 40,000 Jordanians alone to fight alongside the Iraqi army.

Iraq had already defeated a bigger attack in its eight-year war with Iran and would not bow to pressure, he said.

He warned OPEC members not to cooperate with U.N. sanctions against Iraq.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:45 Programme review
15:45 Children programmes
18:00 News summary
18:10 Local programme
19:30 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:40 Programme review
21:40 Local programmes
23:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

17:55 Documentary
19:00 News in French
19:15 Weekly Sport magazine
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:30 Perfect Strangers
21:10 Murder She Wrote
22:00 News in English
22:25 Mystery Movie: "Grand Deceptions"

PRAYER TIMES

04:25 Fajr
05:53 (Sunrise) Dhuha
12:40 Dhuha
16:20 Asr
19:25 Maghreb
20:53 Isha

CHURCHES

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 63785.

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terranova Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 625541.

Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.

Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751.

Assman Interdenominational Church Tel. 685226.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811255.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Normal summer weather will prevail and winds will be northerly moderate to strong.

In Amman, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./max. temp.

Amman 22 / 36

Aqaba 26 / 38

Dead Sea 21 / 37

London (UK) 24 / 26

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

man 35, Aqaba 40. Humidity readings: Amman 19 per cent, Aqaba 18 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Issa Haddad 897007

Dr. Yousef Al Houtani 625478

Pinar pharmacy 661912

Ferdows pharmacy 778336

Al Asena pharmacy 637055

Natrouk pharmacy 626072

Al Salam pharmacy 636730

Yacoub pharmacy 644945

Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

IRBID:

Dr. Ahmad Al Hayek (—)

Al Sharaa pharmacy 985238

ZARQA:

Water Authority 680100

Jordan Flowerline Authority 816412

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111

Civil Defence Immediate 630341

Raid Defence Emergency 199

Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777

Fire Brigade 891228

Blood Bank 775121

Highway Police 843402

Traffic Police 896390

Public Security Department 630321

Hotel Complaints 605800

Price Complaints 661176

Water and Sewerage 845845

Complaints 897467

Amman Municipality 787111

Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 010230

Central Amman Telephone 623101

Abdallah Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 773111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 680100

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32

Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6

Akshid Maternity, J. Amn 642441/2

Jabal Amman Maternity 642362

Mallat, J. Amman 634140

Pelatrice, Shmeisani 664171/4

Shmeisani Hospital 669131

University Hospital 845845

The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37

Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6

Indulin, Al-Muhajira 771101/3

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 771112/6

Army, Marika 891611/5

Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50

Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:

Clashes reported between demonstrators and police

By Serene Hakeem
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Clashes broke out between police forces and demonstrators on their way to a peaceful rally in Madaba, Sunday afternoon in Amman.

According to eye witnesses' reports, about 200 demonstrators boarded three buses on their way to Madaba, decided to change their route and pass in front of the Iraqi Embassy. Police forces were called on the scene and, according to eye

witnesses, they stopped the demonstrators at the Third Circle preventing them from passing in front of the Egyptian and American embassies in that area.

Store owners around the Third Circle area said the demonstrators were chanting pro-Iraqi and anti-American slogans. The demonstrators briefly clashed with police forces and smashed the sirens on two police cars, eye witnesses said. One store owner said

he saw a policeman, draw his gun when the smashing of the cars started, but there was no reported damage to either the Egyptian or the American embassies.

The demonstrators then boarded the buses and were escorted away from the area. Zahran Police Station, the closest police station to the area, declined to comment and the Public Security Department said it did not have any information about the situation.

Environmental centre issues reports on pollution, effects

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Environmental Research Centre (ERC) at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) has published three reports about pollution of the environment and its effects on people following surveys and studies conducted in Amman, Hashemiyeh near Zarqa and the southern port city of Aqaba.

The reports reveal new facts about the environmental situation in these three areas and provide a number of recommendations.

The first of these reports, which took four years to compile, was about fumes emanating from industrial and residential areas in Amman.

The report, which compared the results of the survey to the situation in other parts of the world, was financed by the Canadian International Development Research Centre, according to the RSS.

Last February the RSS said that monitoring of air in and around Amman had revealed heavy

pollution of the atmosphere, especially around the city centre. The city centre is usually congested with traffic.

The report said that the "downtown area of Amman is surrounded by mountains and the heavy traffic day and night and all year round causes a great deal of pollution."

The report said dirt roads and unpaved streets in some areas caused the saturation of the atmosphere with dust. The report also cited building construction as a cause for the dust in the air.

The ERC's second report, which took a whole year to compile, focused on the spread of hydrogen sulphide in populated areas near the Jordan Petroleum Refinery and Al Hashemiyeh district of Zarqa.

The Higher Council of Science and Technology supported and financed the study and the analysis of pollution in the air in these areas in 1989 and 1990, the statement said.

It said that special attention

was focused on the effects of polluted air and gas on human beings in the populated areas.

The third report dealt with phosphate dust which rises into the air during the loading of ships with phosphate in Aqaba. The dust causes "terrible pollution" to the atmosphere, it said.

The report contained results of analysis of samples of the flying dust collected at different times during the year to determine the amount of pollutants.

According to the statement, prepared at the request of the Jordanian Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC), copies of the report are being distributed to various concerned institutions.

To support its efforts to protect the environment from pollution, the ERC organised a regional workshop on air pollution in Amman last February. The workshop dealt with air pollution monitoring, standards and specifications as well as means of protecting the environment and dealing with health hazards of air pollutants.

Conference on computers to review their use

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) will organise the second Jordanian conference on computers and their applications and use on October 13 under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Director of the RSS's Computer Department, Youssef Nseir, said in a statement that the conference would focus attention on Jordan's achievements in the use and employment of computers in various fields and would pinpoint the main difficulties encountered in using computers in the course of implementing development projects.

Nseir said that the conference would also discuss national information strategies, data banks, providing information on administrative matters, regional and local computer data systems and applications in several fields.

A special committee has been set up to prepare for the coming conference which is being prepared in cooperation with the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University, and the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST).

The committee chairman called on all those concerned with the computer business in Jordan to take part in the conference which will review several research papers submitted by specialists in computer science.

China to grant \$10 million for development projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — Agreement was reached here Sunday for China to grant Jordan a \$10 million loan to help finance a number of development projects in the Kingdom.

The agreement came at a meeting between Minister of Planning Khaled Amin Abdullah and the visiting Chinese First Deputy Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Li Lan Ching who discussed trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

The two officials also discussed matters related to the joint Jordanian-Chinese committee and said that the date for its meeting would be fixed later.

The Chinese official Saturday attended a ceremony for the inauguration of Al Hassan Sports City in Irbid which was financed through loans offered by China and with the help of Chinese expertise.

China has contributed to several other development projects in the Kingdom.

The Chinese official later had a meeting with Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Fariz for an exchange of views on bilateral economic and trade relations.

Fariz told the Chinese guest that Chinese products are given preference on Jordanian markets and that Jordan's potash is being

shipped on constant basis to China's markets.

Ching later had a meeting with Dr. Ibrahim Badran, the ministry's secretary-general, with whom he reviewed economic and trade relations and means of developing them by increasing the volume of goods exchanged between Jordan and China and launching joint economic ventures. Badran said that such ventures could be in the fields of food industries, and minerals.

The Chinese official said his country was willing to take part in such ventures and in the Jordanian fertilisers industry programme.

A ministry statement said later that the two sides reviewed Jordan's exports of potash, which amounted to 250,000 tonnes in 1990 and were expected to reach 500,000 tonnes in 1991.

They also discussed the prospect of China purchasing Jordanian phosphates and the possibility of exchanging visits by officials and specialists in trade and economy and holding joint trade fairs.

Discussion also revolved around the work of the joint Jordanian-Chinese economic committee and said that it would convene before the end of 1990.

Lions Club urges Arab action against U.S., Britain

AMMAN (J.T.) — The International Association of Lions Club in Amman Sunday issued a statement attacking the presence of American and foreign troops on Arab soil and urging Arab masses to strike at American and British interests throughout the Arab World.

The statement said that Arab masses should exert pressure on Arab leaderships to change their positions and side with Iraq, offering it a greater strategic depth.

"The Arab Nation these days is going through a crucial stage and is struggling to achieve its aspirations and development, but the evil powers of aggression led by the United States are trying desperately to impose their hegemony on the Arabs and to pillage their wealth and subjugate their present and future generations," said the statement.

The Arab Nation is seeking to regain its right and role among the nations of the world and to protect its sovereignty, but the hostile powers are moving their

fleets and massing armies and beating the drums of war in an attempt to impose domination on the Arab World," the statement added.

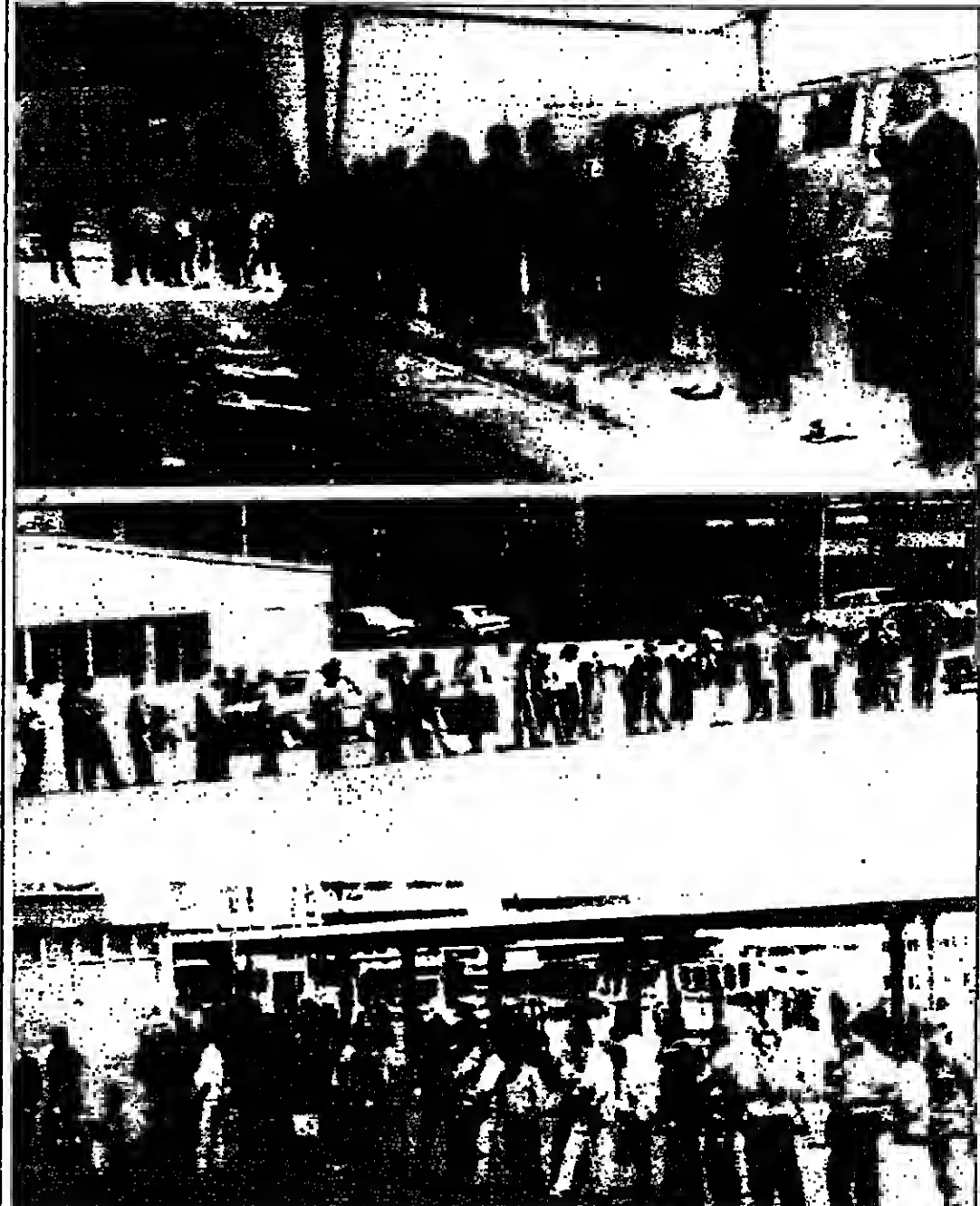
"The members of the Lions Club announce their wrath and total condemnation of the foreign colonial attempts and stress that the Arab masses have two choices: victory or martyrdom because the other options entail slavery and humiliation for ever," the statement added.

The statement declared a five-point plan which, it said, should help the Arab Nation achieve its aspirations and victory:

1- The formation of popular committees in every street, quarter, village and city to gather support for Iraq's heroic steadfastness, to provide material and moral support for the Iraqi people and reduce the effects of the economic sanctions imposed on Iraq by the imperialist forces.

2- Translating Arab faith and Arab zeal into practice and urging Arabs to offer their souls and sacrifice themselves in defence of the Arab Nation.

The Lions Club, said the statement, places all its potentials at the disposal of Iraq and for the common Arab cause so that the Arab people can live with dignity and achieve victory.



PATIENT WAITING: Bus terminals at weekends witness long queues of citizens who work in Amman and travel to the various towns in the north and south for weekly visits with their families. The passengers have to stand for a long

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Heads of state congratulate King

AMMAN (Petra) — United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahyan and Crown Prince of Bahrain Hamad Ben Issa Al Khalifa were among world leaders who sent cables of good wishes Sunday to His Majesty King Hussein on the 36th anniversary of his accession to the throne. Other leaders included French President Francois Mitterrand and also Brigadier Nasser Al Khafri commander of the Palestine Liberation Forces stationed in Jordan.

Madaba voices support for Iraq

MADABA (Petra) — A local popular committee for supporting the Iraqi people has organised a public rally in Madaba to voice support for Iraq. Various groups and organisations which took part in the rally carried posters denouncing the presence of American forces in the Arab Gulf countries as a flagrant aggression on the Arab Nation and the Islamic shrines.

Committee on unemployment meets

TAFLEH (Petra) — A local committee entrusted with dealing with the unemployment problem and the effects of this year's drought discussed at a meeting here Sunday progress on a number of schemes initiated this year to absorb a number of Jordanian job seekers. Projects initiated in this respect include maintenance of water springs, canals and retaining walls, drilling of artesian wells, creating pasture lands and planting fruit and forest trees in several areas. The committee comprises directors of the departments of public works, water and irrigation, agriculture and finance.

Youth camps for juvenile delinquents opens

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Social Development has organised a scout camp for 85 youths from various rehabilitation centres caring for the juvenile delinquents. The participants in the week-long camp activities are juvenile delinquents at the rehabilitation centres located in Irbid, Amman, and Zarqa. According to the ministry's Secretary-General Mohammad Sequeir, who opened the camp activities, the participants will attend lectures, do practical work and social activities, carry out voluntary services and have recreational programmes at the camp which was set up at Muwaqqar, south of here.

University of Jordan holds exhibition

AMMAN (Petra) — An agricultural exhibition was opened Sunday at the University of Jordan displaying books and booklets on farming, types of birds, fish and bees kept in Jordan, as well as farm equipment, tree saplings, fertilisers and pesticides. The four-day exhibition was opened by Minister of Agriculture Sulaiman Arabiyat in the presence of University President Mahmoud Al Sattar and other officials and deans.

Electricity Workers Union suspends strike

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Electricity Workers' Union said Sunday it decided to suspend a strike by the Jordan Electric Power Company (JEPCO) employees scheduled to start on Aug. 15. The union threatened to strike if JEPCO did not meet demands by the employees concerning salary rises.

In a statement issued by its board of directors Sunday, the union said its decision to suspend the strike came as a result of the union's concern over the employees' interests and due to the situation in the region.

The statement said: "After reviewing the dangerous, explosive situation through which the whole Arab World is passing and in order to emphasise the union's nationalism and pan-Arabist sentiments and the readiness to sacrifice money and blood to protect the soil of our homeland, the future of the Arab Nation and its unity, the board of directors decided to suspend the strike by JEPCO's employees on Aug. 15 until further notice."

At the same time the board of directors announces that it will strongly stick to all the demands by the employees and that it still considers the notice to strike effective.

The statement said that the union's board of directors expresses its regret for the negative position taken by JEPCO's administration towards the employees' demands and warns of taking any arbitrary measures against any of the employees during the period of the suspension of the strike.

The statement said the company would be held responsible for any future consequences resulting from its negative position towards the employees' demands.

JEPCO and the union had previously held several meetings to reach an agreement to resolve the more than three-month old dispute on the salary increases.

The government intervened and proposed a formula to settle the dispute. The formula involved a compromise on salary increases sought by about 2,000 employees and an endorsement for demands for administrative reforms and other rights for the workers.

Head of the electricity union, Walid Khayyat, said the formula was accepted by the union, but was rejected by JEPCO.

Minister of Labour Qasem Obaidat said last week the compromise formula was the ministry's final resort to solve the dispute.

Mafrag

(Continued from page 1)

The demonstrators, some of whom were taken by bus to Mafrag by the organisers and many travelling on their own, chanted slogans denouncing the Saudi and Egyptian leaderships, and describing His Majesty King Hussein as the "heroes of the Arab World."

Among the slogans heard in the desert air were "Death to America and its agents," "Death to Britain" and "Death to Arab traitors."

The rally was also addressed by Dr. Mamdouh Abbadi, head of the Professional Associations and spokesman for the Democratic coalition, and Mafrag Mayor Adli Shidifat.

Following the speeches, men, women and children marched through the main road of Mafrag, which is home

to about 25,000 people. Women by-standers yodded and shouted encouraging slogans to the marchers, led by at least six members of the Lower House. The rally converged on a cemetery housing the tombs of Iraqi soldiers killed in the 1948 and 1967 Arab-Israeli wars, and leaders of the march laid wreaths there.

The general mood was summed up by a notable from the Bani Hassan tribe in Zarqa. "We want justice for all," said Nasrallah Zayyoud, sitting on the gallery of the stadium along with several other tribal notables wearing the traditional abaya. "It is not fair that all those sheikhs, be it King Fahd or Sheikh Jaber, control the oil wealth of the Arab Nation and deny an equal share to those Arabs who are starving."

King orders civil defence, military training

(Continued from page 1)

world's oil reserves in a manner that would only serve their own interests with total disregard to the Arab people's interests," he said.

The King said the Arabs reject any attempt to restore foreign hegemony on the Arabs and their wealth and resources. "The Arabs refuse to accept domination and colonial rule because they had fought hard and offered sacrifices for their dignity and their freedom," he said.

The King noted that Jordan had Arabised its army and Egypt nationalised the Suez Canal and the other Arab countries freed themselves from colonial rule and tutelage.

King Hussein appealed to the Arab Nation to unite its forces and use their potentials and resources to protect their higher national interests.

He thanked the members of the Senate and the Lower House for their cooperation with the executive authority for the sake of bolstering the domestic front and spreading awareness among the public in the face of dangers that threatens the whole Arab Nation.

The King said that Jordan would pursue efforts to reach an Arab solution to the Gulf crisis, "taking into consideration the interests of all Arab countries and to help the Middle East escape further catastrophes."

The King told the parliamentarians that he shared with each Arab citizen the heavy responsibility under the present circumstances. "This nation will survive with the help of God and will remain stronger than all ambitions designs which now threaten its existence," he said.

"Foreign ambitions in this region serve the purposes of the enemies of the Arab Nation and are designed to

help achieve the enemy's objectives through depriving the Arabs of their wealth now and in the future," the King said. The foreign powers aim to regain control of the Arab land and those who live on it.

"We are all partners in shouldering the responsibility under this very difficult condition," he said adding that he took pride in the members of parliament and in all the peoples of Jordan.

The King said that his meeting with the parliamentarians was a chance to place before them the facts about the situation and to review all various developments, "especially at this particular time which requires total keenness on maintaining steadfastness."

The King said a "strong united Jordanian family is the guarantee for closing the door for any enemy penetration."

"A change of consumption habits has become a must under these circumstances and we have to persuade everybody to follow this course," the King said. He called on the members of the two Houses of parliament to take the necessary steps to achieve this goal in cooperation with the executive authorities.

The King said the people should rationalise consumption at all levels, especially in the consumption of water and energy.

He called on respecting the guests of Jordan living in the country and to maintain "our hospitality and generosity for which Jordan is well known."

He said that every Arab living in the country should be considered a guest at all Jordanian homes.

The King also urged the Jordanians to treat foreign visitors with respect and to leave on them the best impression.

"It is important to keep foreigners as friends supporting our causes through our generosity," he said.

The King warned against any rash "over excitement backed by zeal that could affect our firm stand."

He said, "all that which faced the nation since the beginning of the present crisis should confirm that the Arab people form one people and that everyone should offer sacrifices to overcome the present difficult stage."

"Our sufferings and grief are unlimited, but I myself put up a smile to conceal such sufferings," he said. "I emphasise that I will always be faithful to this people and living with them with dignity and pride and loyalty."

"The Arab Nation will overcome this ordeal as it did in the past and will protect its dignity and its future generations," the King said.

He concluded by saying: "I will do all that in my power to deal with this problem. I am honoured to be a soldier serving this nation. I am certain that we will overcome this difficult and trying test and will maintain and strengthen our national unity. We are all part of this nation, which has always shouldered its responsibilities for the future generations. We will not allow the hands of the clock to go back and we cannot accept foreign domination and hegemony. Our people is alert and we have great hopes. We have to offer sacrifice and we have to endure the hardships. We have come a long way after the parliamentary elections to enhance democracy and we have been working on the national charter depending on your efforts. I am confident that justice will be on the side of right and I am hopeful of a bright future for this nation."

He said that the people will offer all

fulfilling the King's address, Lower House Speaker Sulaiman Arar made a speech paying tribute to King Hussein's efforts in "confronting the imperialist-Zionist plans and conspiracies."

"The Lower House salutes the King, who was not tempted by gold or dollars and who has chosen to remain true to the principles of his grandfather and ancestors and who has chosen the path of struggle over the path of subjugation and servitude," Arar said. He also praised the King for confronting "American arrogance and choosing to side by the struggle of the people."

"Whoever tried to force Jordan to deviate from its national course has failed," Arar said. "You have come out triumphant from all evil attempts and safeguarded your honour and the honour of your ancestors."

He said the King had never compromised an inch of Palestinian soil despite the heavy odds. "Today the hostile forces are massing troops against Iraq with all weapons and all means for destruction and King Hussein has chosen to side by right and justice and to back his people's endeavours," he said.

He said Parliament, the representative of the Jordanian people, supports the King's leadership and stand and will shortly offer the people a plan for consolidating the domestic front and steadfastness in grouping all sectors in Jordan and all political groups.

This plan, he said, aims to mobilise the people's effort to support their leadership in the face of the enemy. The plan will cover civil defence, rationalising of consumption and in repelling conspiracies and eliminating harmful rumours.

He said that the people will offer all

sacrifices and will follow their leader and "we will pay the price of keeping dignity."

Upper House of Parliament speaker said in an address that the people of Jordan, the Arabs and the Muslims, have witnessed King Hussein's stands and struggle and they always backed them. Lawzi added that people have never stood by King Hussein's side as they do now.

Lawzi lauded the King's leadership and said the King will never accept humiliation for the Arab Nation, its religion or dignity.

He said the King had addressed all the nation when he said he would not accept that "our holy places be trodden by the Americans and the armies of the enemies."

"These troops and forces," he said, "were the conspiracy of Palestine and they want now to keep the power of the Arab oil in their hands."

"These powers and forces, be added, "want to deprive the Arab Nation from this wealth because they do not want the poor to become rich and the light of justice to shine."

He said the aggressive campaigns against King Hussein and Jordan fabricated from the Far East to the Far West, from Russia to the U.S., are unjust.

In a meeting of the Upper House on Sunday, Lawzi said, the House discussed all the current circumstances and found that the King is on the side of the right and that the Iraqi position, which those aggressors wanted to destroy because Iraq wanted to reply to any aggression, is a legitimate right in self-defence.

"Were these armies when Palestine was occupied and when the Arabs were humiliated and when the Golan Heights, South Lebanon, Tunis and Iraq are attacked?" he asked.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zarz displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rotunda (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).
- Exhibition of paintings by 19 Iraqi artists at the Jordan Plastic Art Association Gallery.

FILM

- French film entitled "Escalier C" at the French Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

Jordan Times

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Weekly Political Pulse

Slavery in all its forms

By Dr. Waleed Sadi

DURING the last week of July, I participated in the meeting of the U.N. Working Group on Slavery in Geneva. I, like most people, have always thought or presumed that the problem of slavery belongs to days long-gone. To my surprise, the problem of slavery and slavery-like practices are very much alive in modern age and if anything it is growing stronger. In his final report on the subject, Tunisian Professor Abdel Wahab Bnahdiha, charged by the U.N. Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities had also this to say about the subject of slavery: "Not without some

hesitation, the sub-commission ultimately set up a working group on slavery. It had been widely thought that the problem of slavery was largely obsolete. Unfortunately, it has turned out to be nothing of the kind. Slavery-type practices remain very widespread throughout the world: bond-service for debt, sale of children, exploitation of the prostitution of others, trafficking women (white and coloured), exploitation of child labour, etc."

Thus till late in our mankind's history, the U.N. system is still seized with the growing problem of slavery and slavery-like practices especially in their contemporary form, i.e., prostitution, pornography and domestics. And ever since 1979, the International Year of the Child, attention has been focused on children and how they have become enslaved through either traditional forms of the more recent manifestations. As a consequence the U.N. human rights system has been giving more and more attention to the plight of children everywhere. A programme was adopted based on three main themes to be examined in the successive years between 1989 and 1991: Prevention of the sale of children, of prostitution of children and of the use of children in pornography for the year of 1989, eradica-

tion of the exploitation of child labour and of the debt-bondage in 1990; and prevention of traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others for 1991.

It has been observed during the ongoing deliberations on the subject of eradication of the child labour and of the debt bondage that whereas such grave problem in their traditional forms exist mostly in the developing world where poverty and disparities between classes of people are profound, the contemporary manifestation of these evils, such as child prostitution, child pornography, and sale of children are com-

mon to both worlds. Nevertheless whereas poverty and backwardness lie behind such contemporary slavery in the underdeveloped world, greed, materialism and the decline of morality and religion lie behind them in the developed world.

It is still appalling to hear the horrific portrayal of the situation of children everywhere. Some of the stories are so painful that they are unbelievable. That's why the centre of the attention of the international community is shifting to children beginning with their survival to their development and protection. This year in

September there will be an international summit in New York on the rights of the child and many heads of state are expected to attend it. UNICEF is organising this September summit and it is projected to be the biggest international summit ever to be held under the auspices of any U.N. specialised agency.

The number of heads of state who will attend the summit would reflect the degree of international concern for the plight of children everywhere. The children's plight is manifested in its worst form when children are made or used as slaves for the adult world.

Step forward

IRAQI PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein's initiative to solve Middle East conflicts may not win universal acclaim, but it could serve as a basis for some much-needed problem-solving exercises in the area. A brief look at a small chapter in our recent history might be helpful in explaining why.

A U.N. Security Council resolution concerning Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, namely Resolution 242, was adopted in 1967. It is still not implemented today, despite the fact that the whole world, including the U.S. and Israel but excluding Syria, have accepted and pledged to abide by it. Is it fair then for a superpower like the U.S. to go all out for implementing a resolution that was adopted 23 years after the first one. This is not a legal argument. We are basically talking about "fairness" here. If America cannot act fair in one place, it is very possible that it might not in some other place.

Legality and fairness aside for now, the U.S. has not only demanded an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait. It has also dispatched troops, navy ships and military aircraft to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf, with the implicit aim of toppling Saddam Hussein and maybe even destroying Iraq as a country.

That the aim of the U.S.-led forces in the Gulf is purely for the purpose of defending Saudi Arabia is a terrible joke. Saddam Hussein, in his initiative yesterday, even offered the idea of replacing American troops with Arab forces "whose volume, nationality, duties and areas of presence between Iraq and Saudi Arabia should be defined by the Security Council, assisted by the U.N. secretary general."

It is very difficult to brush aside some very credible reports and analysis about America's real intentions and policies in the Gulf. An analytical piece circulating around the globe over the past few days suggested that it is actually true the U.S. dispatched forces to the area to defend Saudi Arabia. But it went on to add that the second step was the enforcement of economic sanctions in a manner that was bound to provoke the Iraqis into a military confrontation with the Americans. The third and final leg of the scenario would pit Saddam Hussein against the rest of the world thus facilitating his overthrow.

This sounds like a script just taken out of Hollywood. But it is not unreal, given that the White House was run for eight years by a grade-B Hollywood actor.

Bush is not Reagan, it is true. But that is why perhaps Bush is doing it differently. He knows his economic sanctions will not work. Therefore he is trying to impose a naval blockade against Iraq which runs counter, in spirit and substance, to the same Security Council resolution which he literally imposed on U.N. members. Bush has also tried and succeeded in dividing the Arab World and ensuring an Arab cover for the presence of his forces in the Gulf. And he has engineered all kinds of overt and covert schemes to topple the Iraqi government.

Saddam Hussein has not fired a bullet in return for those American actions. Instead he presented a plan for ending all occupations in the Middle East and bringing about peace to this troubled area.

Will all those who have a stake in averting war and massive destruction give a bit of time to discussing it? The initiative makes sense to many Arabs, and as such it is worthy of serving as a basis towards problem-solving in the area.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i daily Sunday cast a gloomy picture of the Arab political scene following the failure of the Cairo summit to reach a consensus on handling the events in the Gulf. The Cairo summit was not "the last chance summit" as some have described it but rather "the bitter parting of ways summit," and the worst Arab summit ever held, said the paper. Instead of focusing attention on the Iraq-Kuwait issue, the Arab leaders have allowed their countries to become involved in the crisis under the foreign umbrella, providing support for the foreign powers presence in Saudi Arabia, the paper noted. It said that the summit failed to condemn the foreign troops presence in the Gulf, and instead it decided to back such troops, thus fueling the already explosive situation. This last summit has rendered the Arab World totally in disarray in an unprecedented manner, and it was not surprising to hear George Bush giving his own, blessing to the summit which resulted in very convenient outcome for the Americans who had sought to set the Arab countries against Iraq. Jordan, through its participation in the failed summit, had tried to contain the issue and place it solely under the Arab umbrella to no avail, and this country is saddened to see Arab money from the Gulf being squandered to support the presence of foreign powers on Arab soil, when this money should have been used to finance Arab countries development and lifted some of the burden of foreign debts lying heavily on most Arab countries, the paper added. But the most surprising of all, said the paper, is to see Arab troops standing side by side with foreign forces who had been backing Israel's aggression on the Arabs, allowing it to maintain its occupation of Palestine, the Syrian Golan Heights, and Southern Lebanon.

Al Dastour daily also expressed bitterness at the situation and said that the United States is jubilant over its great success not only in paving the ground for the Arab summit in Cairo but also in securing Arab support for its invasion of Saudi Arabia, the lands that hold the holy shrines. The United States has no doubt succeeded in causing a deep split within Arab ranks in such a manner that it is doubtful if the Arabs can and will ever meet together again at the summit level, the paper noted. Jordan realises the dimension of the American conspiracy being hatched against the Arab countries and has repeatedly tried to avert such rifts to prevent the Arabs from becoming supporters for the campaigns of the new crusaders, the paper continued.

NATO takes tough line on Gulf crisis, limits remain

By Nicholas Doughty
Reuters

BRUSSELS — NATO, set up to face a communist threat that has now withered away, is taking a tough line on the Gulf crisis — and trying to overcome limits on its ability to act against Iraq.

The 16 alliance foreign ministers, at an emergency meeting in Brussels on Friday, backed the U.S. military deployment in Saudi Arabia, pledged to defend member-nation Turkey if necessary and said economic sanctions on Iraq must be enforced.

The meeting was held before a majority of Arab leaders agreed at an emergency summit in Cairo to send an Arab force to Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states to protect them from possible Iraqi attack.

NATO Secretary-General Manfred Woerner told a news conference the alliance was not allowed to take coordinated military action outside the territory of its members, under the terms of its 1949 founding charter.

Instead, most NATO members are contributing in different ways to the show of Western force in the Gulf, saying they are acting as individual countries, not as part of an alliance.

"The allies agreed that (they) will contribute, each in its own way, in stopping Iraqi military aggression," Woerner said. "Iraq's aggression threatens international security and the collective security of the alliance."

More to the point, Iraq's invasion of Kuwait last week threatens a recession for most NATO members — which include the West's most powerful economies — if oil prices remain high. The Gulf produces one quarter of the world's oil.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker said the alliance faced its "first post-war crisis."

"The stakes... are very high for all of us around this table," Baker told the meeting.

Since the collapse of the Warsaw Pact and Communism in Eastern Europe, NATO has sought a wider, more political role and has discussed how far it should become involved in "out of area" crises like the one in the Gulf.

"There was unanimity on NATO as a forum for consulting on these matters," British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd told reporters.

Aside from political consultations, there are growing signs that more allies are willing to contribute to the military forces in the Gulf, led by the United States.

There were indications at the meeting that Belgium, Canada, Spain and the Netherlands could send forces there. France and Britain have already dispatched warplanes and ships. Britain has sent fighters to support the U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia, the only NATO member to do this so far.

West Germany has sent minesweepers to the Mediterranean, to replace U.S. vessels moving to the Gulf.

A senior U.S. official said the United States expected some of its NATO allies to provide ground troops, as well as ships and other forces for the multinational force.

Allied support, with supplies and perhaps ships and troops, would be crucial to the United States if war breaks out, since European NATO allies are much closer to the Gulf.

NATO members Italy, West Germany, Spain and Portugal have already given the United

States permission to use U.S. bases on their territory as staging posts on the way to Saudi Arabia.

Woerner said it would be "premature" to consider revising NATO's charter so that it could intervene in such crises more effectively.

The situation would change dramatically if Iraq threatened Turkey, the only NATO member with which it shares a border.

The ministers pledged to defend Turkey, which has cut off vital Iraqi oil exports and put its air force on alert, after reports that Iraq had sent troops to the frontier.

"The allies affirmed they are ready to stand by their defence commitments to all member states," he said. The NATO treaty says that any attack on one member will be treated as an attack on them all.

A NATO multinational brigade of about 5,000 men, trained to operate in Turkey, would almost certainly be the first unit to go in if there are signs of serious trouble.

Malaysia's Chinese play balancing act

By Ho Kay Tat
Reuters

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia's ethnic Chinese, economically strong but lacking political clout, have emerged as power brokers in a bitter struggle between two Malay-Muslim groups fighting to rule the country.

Analysts say Chinese votes can tip the balance in favour of the Malay-led ruling coalition or a fledgling rival political alliance in a general election widely expected to be held this year.

Both Malay groups are wooing the Chinese, who make up a third of the 17.4 million population. Analysts say the Chinese in the process can gain more bargaining power in determining the political future of the multi-racial country.

Ethnic Chinese have been politically divided and weak, with leaders playing a shrinking role in Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad's 11-party National Front Coalition, since hundreds died in riots between ethnic Malays and Chinese in May, 1969.

But things changed after April, 1987, when Mahathir narrowly defeated a fierce challenge for the presidency of his United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) by former Finance Minister Tun Razaleigh Hamzah.

Razaleigh formed a new "Spirit of 46" Party, named after the year UMNO was founded, which has forged a loose alliance with three other Malay parties, an Indian party and the Chinese-based opposition Democratic Action Party.

Democratic action leaders say Chinese can gain more political muscle by helping the new opposition alliance come to power.

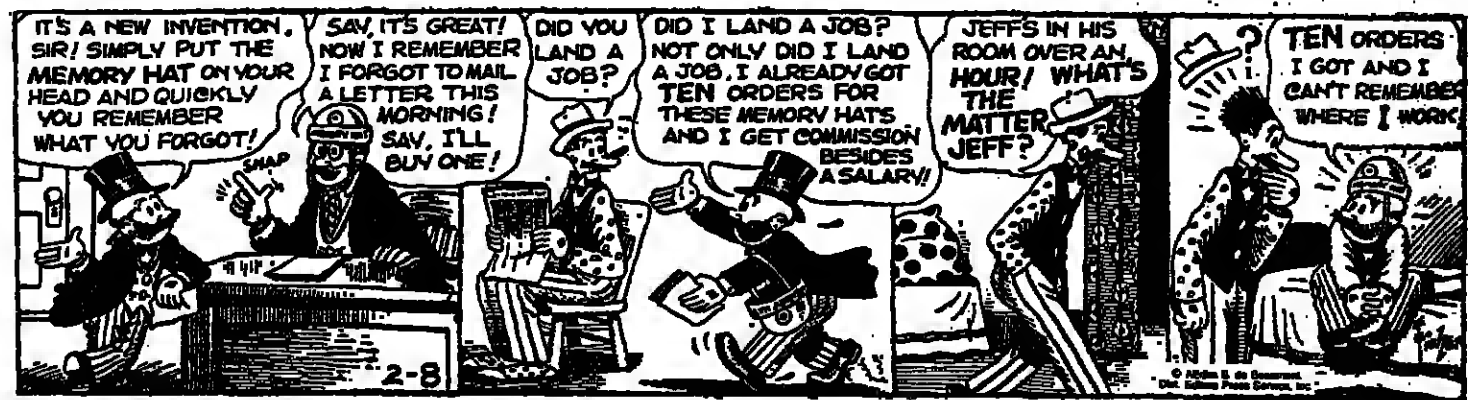
"This is the first time the people can look forward to the possibility of a change in government," said Lee Lam Thye, the deputy leader of Democratic Action.

But analysts say many Chinese, while unhappy with their secondary role, fear there would be uncertainty if the National Front, which has ruled the country since independence from Britain in 1957, loses power. The Chinese community also will not risk a change in government at a time of a booming economy, they say.

"Only a small group will take a gamble, the rest will opt for political stability and economic prosperity," said Kerk Choo Ting, deputy president of the Chinese-based Gerakan Party, a



Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



King orders training

(Continued from page 1)

and new dangers in the Zionist movement, its occupation of the whole of Palestine and other Arab territories including the Golan Heights and southern Lebanon. Of these dangers also is the ever-increasing Zionist influence on decision-making circles and political planners in this world. They also include the influx of new Jewish immigrants into Palestine, and what accompanies this of pouring money and arms for their settlement in a small piece of land with its limited resources, especially water. Jordan also is suffering from water scarcity. Something that makes it available is a new challenge facing our nation.

What we are facing now is our fate, which we accept, and a historic responsibility which we will shoulder honestly.

"Energy, which all forms the most important of its sources, is also very important, and an element that should be taken into consideration in the process of forming the new world. The existence of two thirds of the world's oil reserves in our region is another aspect which makes us face dangers and threats, for the cravings and the desire to dominate the region that it brings.

"Above all... there are the dangers threatening the Arab Order itself. This is the image that I wanted you to see while we are trying to solve the crisis which we gathered for and which I anticipated since some time; and I want at the same time trying to solve it before it explodes in the face of our nation.

"I have always asked my brothers, particularly during the last year to replace doubts with trust, and cooperation instead of competition and disputes; and to solve with brotherly spirit our problems, especially the dispute which brought about this crisis, which is the dispute over borders, a problem inherited by colonialism when it tore our one homeland into countries to make the one of us fight his brother.

"I am sure that my brothers remember how many times I wished they economise in keeping arms for fear of a brother or a friend, and I asked them to look to their national security within the framework of Arab security so that this expenditure is in its right place.

"I have asked that with all my powers, and devoted for it a lot of effort and time, I am confident that among us are some brothers who believed in the same idea and the same tenacity and sought the same goals and purposes.

"Now I get into the matter to say that there are facts that should be remembered. Of these facts that Iraq has a debt that the Arab Nation should pay after it spent eight years defending it, and its order. And for this sake it offered martyrs. This is a favour that we will never forget. Of these facts are also that after Iraq went out of the battle victorious and as it approached its brotherly neighbour to find a peaceful settlement with its Muslim brothers, other sides, which were attacked by the agreement of the two parties started highlighting it to distort the situation; to prepare the atmosphere for international public opinion to hit at Iraq and undermine it in order to destroy it, since it is a promising power in the Arab World.

"This does not mean that we ignore the Arab League Charter and approve occupations of land of others by force. We are certainly against any aggression and consider what happened a tragedy, and a problem that we should succeed in solving.

"Can we solve the problem by ourselves or there is a determination to leave this place with failure in solving our problems? That is the question that we should frankly answer.

"I always had the chance to meet our brothers in the Gulf region and I was very happy to be among them and with them. Throughout the long years that passed we stood by their side and they stood on our side in the different situations and occasions. We in Jordan were always and will always be a part of the large Arab World and a link in the chain of the Arab nation. We carry in our hearts our forebears through our Arab army. We are always for our brothers and what hurts them, hurts us; their strength makes us strong and their stability is ours, and their achieving progress.

Iraq says pilots ready

(Continued from page 1)

because the nation and future are threatened by the foreigner," he said.

Saddam said that if Iraq were defeated at war, the Arabs would be thrown into disarray and poverty at the hands of the Americans and Jews.

Iraq is now enjoying "an era of pride and happiness," he said. But he warned that unless the mujahadeen actively implement his appeal, "the future will bring an era of Americanism and Zionism and the Arab Nation will lose its only chance in establishing an infrastructure for the march towards liberation and an end to the oppression, hunger and slavery."

"Victory depends on success of this for us and our generations," he said.

"Today, you have additional responsibilities to those you had shouldered before. You are called to take on a special role in all the social and domestic affairs."

"The role that is suitable for you today, dear majeda, is that of organising the economic life from the entire society in addition to your previous duties. It is when the economic life is organised in accordance with the overall plan we seek, that we can consider the battle over in favour of Iraq and the invaders deceived, fleeing one after the other..."

in all the aspects of life is what we attempted to do together by different means and abilities. Their pride is our pride and humiliation is what we can not accept for any of them or us no matter what it costs us of sacrifices. One of the Koranic verses say: "If two parties of the Muslim believe then reconcile them."

"Based on God's rule we moved since the explosion of the crisis. I have contacted several of you, and some of my brothers asked me to do what I could to address this problem. I tell you frankly that I was not helped to achieve what I considered as a duty, and I and my country were blamed for not having condemnation. Then how can I carry on the duty of reconciliation in such an atmosphere? Was it meant to bring my duty to failure to show the world that we as Arabs are unable to solve our causes? We have waited for tens of years so that the Arab citizen be helped in obtaining his right in his land and country in accordance with international resolutions; but that never happened. In this case which we are discussing, it is strange that the whole world issues a resolution that we should implement under threat.

"It is required that our meeting ends in failure so that the world would do with our cause what it desires?"

"Are we fully aware of what does that mean?"

"Are we aware to a certain extent to know or recognise the gravity of what is happening?"

"Are we in harmony with the Arab human in this Arab World with his thought and sentiments and ambitions?"

"Or do we live in another world other than the one our Arab people are living in?"

"I ask my brothers in Kuwait and the Gulf region to forgive me if I have shown any sorrow and pain. I was not in any day but for them, and I will never forget their stands on Jordan."

"But what can we say to the Arab citizen when he sees the Arab forces supporting foreign forces on our holy land, while he is aware of the relation of these foreign forces' states with our other issues?"

No one is eternal and we are all leaving.

Our nation has suffered from foreign occupation for tens of years and struggled to bring it to an end. I felt I had a great responsibility until I Arabised the Arab army in the first move to correct our path in the whole Arab World. This was followed by nationalising the Suez Canal and the efforts continued and the Arabs were liberated.

"Do you want after all these years to tell the world we are unable to resolve our problems by ourselves and to give them the opportunity to come back and dominate?"

"You have heard this from me individually more than once, and I am repeating it now. My country is poor and it is in need of weapons. And the suffering of our brothers in the occupied territories increases every day because of the oppression while at the same time Israel is provided by all forms of support and backing such as money, arms and expertise."

My brothers, our situation is extremely serious and extremely strange. I am not divulging a secret if I say I have faced in this stage what no one ever faced of defamation and threats against me and my country. All that because of our determination to stand by our nation to face dangers that threaten it.

There is a lot of hope that we can reach an Arab solution that is in harmony with the spirit of this nation and which stems from its essence. Our duty specifies that we work hard so that matters be back to normal before the situation aggravates, and before things we do not want to happen take place.

Allow me to say our meeting today is to contain a serious situation that is quickly developing. And if it were left to aggravate our nation will suffer from its negative aspects for many generations to come.

"What we should achieve is to impose the Arab solution which addresses everyone with the Arab spirit in accordance with the verse from the Holy Book that we did not carry out so far. No doubt the basis for solving the issue is the withdrawal of that matter be back to normal between brothers."

"It is then that we will possess all the potentials to take on all the amassed forces of evil and those who might be massed in the next two months," Saddam said.

Saddam made several suggestions as to how the mujahadeen could help organise the family and the economy.

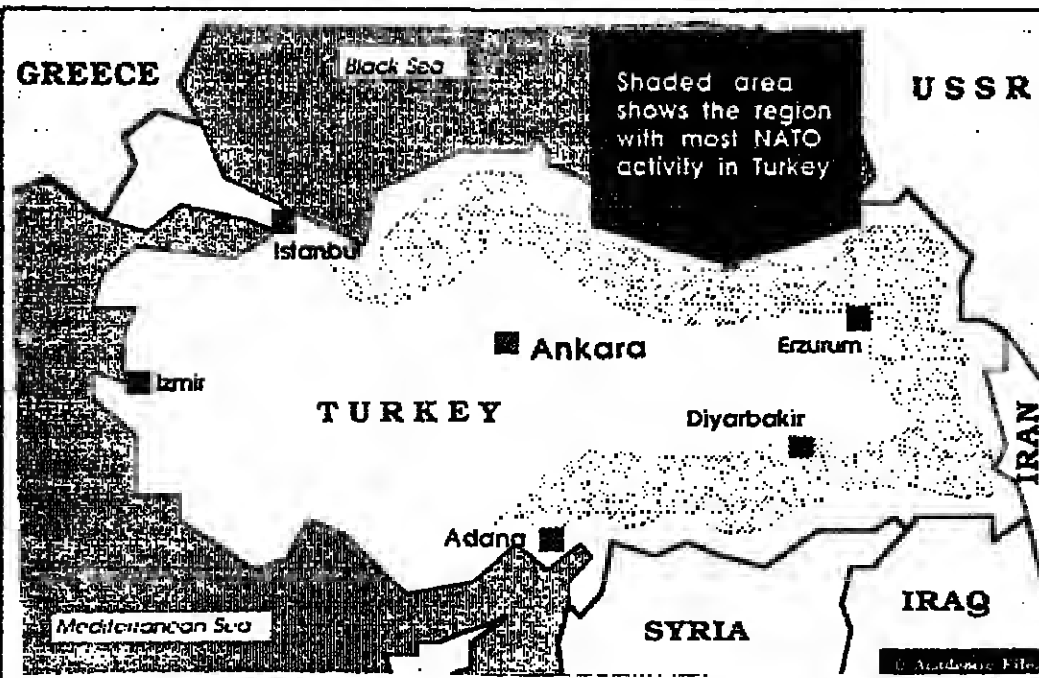
"What is demanded is that the amount of food in pots or on the table be limited to only what we really need. And that the table not be crowded as the tradition has been with various dishes and types fruit," he said.

"I know, as well as you do, that Iraqi families, even those with limited income, are able to live for a year without purchasing clothes or food."

"Each family should take the initiative and tell its neighbour how instead of consuming five or 10 kilograms of meat a month, it has cut down its consumption by half... it is with this that we can hit the core of the American schemes which they have plotted against us in accordance with the mentality that money is everything in life..."

"Even during the war with Iran, our lives were not lacking except the very trivial things."

"Today, however, after the forces of evil took the decision of boycott and siege, what is required is an attitude of more awareness," Saddam said.



Gulf crisis thrusts Turkey into key frontline role

By John Owen-Davies
Reuter

ANKARA — The Gulf crisis has thrust Turkey into a frontline role against Iraq and lifted official gloom in Ankara over its future in NATO and Europe.

The crisis severely tested Turkey's allegiance to the West and traditionally cautious approach towards often troublesome neighbours such as Iraq.

Washington has praised sanctions imposed by Turkey despite damage to its already troubled economy. Squabbles that marred Ankara's ties with some Western allies have been shelved.

Turkey hopes its actions, which include closing a twin pipeline carrying half Iraq's total oil exports, will trigger second thoughts about its application for full European Community (EC) membership.

"Turkey's reaction on sanctions was much better than expected," said an Ankara-based Western ambassador.

"In recent years Turkey has been seen by the West as 'one of them'. I think it is now 'one of us' but this is unlikely to lead to any great improvement with the EC," he added.

Turkish officials said President Turgut Ozal, who sees his country as a bridge between Europe and the Middle East, had no hesitation in joining sanctions ordered by the United Nations after Iraq took over Kuwait.

"EC countries and the world as well have come to recognise the importance of Turkey," said Ozal, whose 1987 application for full EC membership

was sidelined by Brussels.

"The important thing is Turkey is a reliable country and it can, without thinking of its losses, stick to its principles at a time when all the world comes together," he said.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, in a spine-shivering visit to Ankara last Thursday, said his talks included a Kuwaiti offer to minimise Turkey's financial losses from sanctions, which diplomats said could exceed six billion dollars.

Before the flare-up, officials in mainly Muslim but secular Turkey were dejectedly pondering what role Ankara, an associate EC member since 1963, could play in the new Europe.

At best, officials said privately, it could lead a sphere of influence with Bulgaria, Romania and other countries on the southeastern flank of the continent.

Now the mood has changed. "Baker said the United States supported Turkey's inclusion in the EC and that he would express this to the EC," a senior Turkish official said.

Ankara's application for full membership has met opposition from several states uneasy about Turkey's poor human rights record since a 1980 army coup, an inflation-ridden economy and its mainly Muslim and Asian identity.

Turkey also feared that its key role in NATO as a frontline state against the Soviet Union was being diminished by the end of the cold war.

As the only North Atlantic Treaty Organisation country bordering Iraq, it has recently assumed a new importance. But Ankara has been reluctant

to join U.S. and other troops in a multinational force guarding Saudi Arabia.

It has also made no commitment on allowing NATO or the United States, which has 5,000 troops in the country, to use U.S.-run bases in Turkey for air strikes against Iraq.

"It is a long way from Iowa to Kuwait but Kuwait is not far from Silopi," said one Western military official, referring to Turkey's nearest town to Iraq.

Turkey, with the largest forces in NATO after the United States, has placed its air force on alert amid reports that more Iraqi troops were deploying near the 240-kilometre border.

Officials say up to 4,000 Turks are trapped in Iraq and about 2,500 in Kuwait, along with thousands of other foreigners refused exit permits.

Turkey was in dispute with Baghdad before the crisis began. Both Iraq and Syria severely criticised Ankara's plans for sharing vital waters of the Euphrates River, focus of a major hydro-electric and irrigation project in Anatolia.

Columnist Mehmet Ali Birand sounded a note of caution in the liberal daily Milliyet.

"Turkey has taken a position as a country that can play a role in the Middle East," he wrote. "In years to come, Turkey will be viewed as a country whose interests are integrated with the West."

"We have to tread very carefully and try to understand the region well... if we don't, we may be pushed easily by external forces into circumstances we do not like."

Spectre of war falls like ray of sunshine on Pentagon

By Charles Aldinger
Reuter

WASHINGTON — The spectre of war in the Gulf could not come at a more opportune time for the embattled U.S. defence establishment.

The cold war is over in Europe, Congress is slashing at the Pentagon budget and Defence industry stocks are sliding.

But defence experts say that Iraq's invasion of Kuwait last week is a reminder that peace has not broken out everywhere.

The Gulf crisis, they add, could change the rules — certainly the arguments — when Congress returns to town next month to resume a fight with President George Bush over his proposed \$306.9 billion 1991 defence budget.

"You're still going to see military cuts next year and in the next five years. But it may be a new ball game on where and how deep," said Jim Blackwell of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies.

Analysts said Defence Secretary Dick Cheney would remind lawmakers that without high defence spending in the Reagan years, the Pentagon could not have quickly sent

thousands of troops, hundreds of aircraft and dozens of high-tech warships to the Gulf to face Iraq's Saddam Hussein.

Senior Defence officials said that perhaps the Gulf situation will remind Americans that not only fighting itself, but deterrence against war carries a high price tag.

"If Saddam Hussein did not face the prospect of fighting Uncle Sam, he might be sitting in Saudi Arabia today," said one of the officials, who asked not to be identified.

The situation won't have a great effect on the stealth bomber, because Congress sees that as a nuclear weapon no longer needed against Moscow," said Barry Blechman of the Johns Hopkins Foreign Policy Institute.

"But there are dozens of other expensive weapons — from aircraft carriers, to advanced fighter jets, to helicopters — which will now get much closer looks before they go on the expendable list," Blechman said.

The crisis has forced Cheney to put on hold his consideration of whether to cut or delay development of the army's new light attack helicopter, whether to delay the navy's wolf attack submarine programme or reduce the number of planned Arleigh Burke Des-

troyers.

It could change how he views those arms and how willing he and the navy will be, for example, to bow to calls from some lawmakers to reduce the number of U.S. aircraft carriers from 14 to 12 — and perhaps even to 10.

"Nobody, and I mean nobody, takes any pleasure at the thought of a fight and casualties that might cause," said one senior navy officer.

"But when you have to show the flag and fight for it halfway around the world, you better have the tools against someone like that fool in Iraq who has a lot of hardware."

U.S. defence firms have in recent months announced plans to lay off thousands of workers in the year ahead in anticipation of military spending cuts to shrink the federal budget deficit.

Michael Lauer, an analyst with Kidder, Peabody and Co. in New York, told the Washington Post that defence giants such as Litton Industries, which builds aircraft carriers and Aegis Cruisers, could benefit from the Gulf crisis.

It could also help troubled Grumman Corp. by prolonging funds for the F-14 navy fighter, an ageing but proven weapon. The programme is currently slated to end in 1992.

Iraq's might not so mighty

By Jim Drinkard
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Iraq's massive war machine is largely a ground force whose true military capabilities are less than its size and armament would suggest, according to U.S. analysts.

While President Saddam Hussein's 5,500 tanks and more than a million-man army are the Arab World's largest force — and the world's fourth-largest military — the United States believes they can be kept at bay and eventually starved by a much smaller contingent that relies on air and sea power.

It is true that an eight-year war with Iran that ended in 1988, and a \$34 billion military buildup over that period, left Iraq with a hardened, battle-tested force. But a conflict over Saudi Arabia would be of a far different character, and much of that experience might be less relevant, according to U.S. officials.

"We treat them and view them as a capable military force," said Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff. "But they are not invincible and they're not three metres tall."

Against Iran, Iraqi troops became adept at building massive earthworks, constructing tank traps and flooding land as a defence against the human waves sent by the Ayatollah Khomeini. They learned to move elite units quickly to hot spots along the border and developed an extensive fleet of armoured troop transports.

Iraq also acquired scud missiles, a relatively clumsy ground-to-ground weapon, from the Soviet Union, and improved their range with help from private engineers in the West. And Saddam has developed an independent capacity to make mustard gas and nerve gas, and deliver them in artillery shells and missiles.

On paper, Iraq also has a substantial air force and formidable defences against possible sorties by U.S. fighters and bombers.

Some of those planes are equipped with French exocet missiles, one of which hit the USS Stark and killed 37 sailors.

It was those four fighter squadrons which carried out the most effective raids during Iraq's eight-year war with Iran, attacking oil-loading facilities at Kharg island in the Gulf, said a congressional source.

While the air force includes 450 other combat planes, some of them Soviet MiGs, they have not been a threat. Bombing runs on Tehran during the war were carried out from 30,000 feet (10,000 yards) because of fear of anti-aircraft fire and did little damage the analyst said.

The Iraqi navy has more than 300 surface-to-air missiles, which could be used against U.S. pilots, but are said to be unprepared to use them. There was little need for air defence in the war with Iran, so skilled personnel were not committed to those areas.

The Iraqi navy is almost nonexistent, which is why military strategists see a naval blockade as a leading option. The Iraqi leader can deploy only five ships of any size, and its primary waterway to the Gulf remains choked with the wreckage of ships sunk during the war with Iran.

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Boutsen wins Hungarian GP

BUDAPEST (AP) — Thierry Boutsen of Belgium led from start to finish and fought off Ayrton Senna of Brazil on the final lap to win the Hungarian Grand Prix by .288 seconds.

Boutsen, driving a Williams-Renault, set a race record averaging 167.4 kph (104 mph) in winning his third career Formula One race.

Nelson Piquet of Brazil finished third, 27.605 seconds back.

The second-place finish keeps Senna atop the drivers' standings with 54 points. Alain Prost remained in second with 44 points after the Frenchman's Ferrari went off the track in the 37th lap.

Boutsen completed the 77 laps on the 3.97-kilometre (2.47-mile) Hungaroring Circuit in one hour, 49 minutes, 30.597 seconds, breaking the record of Nigel Mansell, who set the mark last year in his Ferrari. Mansell finished the race in 1:49:38.650 for an average speed of 167.10 kph (103.83 mph).

Boutsen, Mansell, Senna and his McLaren-Honda teammate, Gerhard Berger, were involved in a four-way struggle over the last 13 laps as Boutsen stubbornly

held the lead.

All four cars formed a parade as they passed cars. By the 70th lap they were within 1.1 seconds of each other, about 50 metres separating first to fourth.

On the 72nd lap, Berger nudged Mansell out of the race on a tight curve but was also eliminated himself. That left third to Piquet and fourth to Italy's Riccardo Patrese in a Williams-Renault. Fifth went to Derek Warwick of Britain in a Lotus-Lamborghini with sixth going to France's Eric Bernard in a Larrousse-Lamborghini.

Boutsen started from the inside and Berger jumped into second, passing Patrese on the first curve.

Boutsen held off Berger for the first 47 laps before the Austrian went in for new tires.

"The first part of the race was run at the same speed as Berger," Boutsen said. "Then I saw he went in for tires and I realised it was my last chance to win the race without stopping. I had to go as long as I could."

Patrese took over second and stayed there for the next eight laps.

After Patrese went in for a tire change, Alessandro Nannini took over second for six laps. But he was taken out of the race when Senna passed inside of the Italian and put him off the track on the 64th lap.

"It was very unfortunate with Nannini," Senna said. "I think he didn't see me."

Senna kept bounding Boutsen over the last 10 laps within a half-second of him. However Boutsen held firm although his tires were wearing out.

"I almost went off the track two laps from the end," Boutsen said. "I did everything I could to keep in front and it worked out. I don't think I could have lasted another lap with the tires."

Senna raced in a spare car after his crew discovered a hole in the radiator of his primary vehicle before the start.

"I was lucky in that the spare was set up for me and under the circumstances we were very lucky to finish in second," Senna said. "This race was not a race for the victory. It was a race for the (season) championship."

The next event on the Formula One season is in two weeks, the Belgian Grand Prix.

British swimmer sets pace as rivals crash out

ROME (R) — Nick Gillingham of Britain hit form to set the pace in the 200 metres breaststroke heats at the European Open Cup Swimming Championship Sunday as three top rivals crashed out.

Gillingham, the European champion, looked set to put a disappointing year behind him after winning the heats in two minutes 15.60 seconds, more than 1.4 seconds ahead of second fastest qualifier Joaquin Fernandez of Spain.

European record holder Sergio Lopez of Spain, Commonwealth Games champion Jon Cleveland of Canada and promised American Eric Wunderlich all narrowly failed to reach the finals.

Lopez finished in 2:19.27, more than seven seconds outside his European record of 2:12.24 set in Seattle on July 20, and Wunderlich and Cleveland's times of 2:18.49 and 2:18.88 were also slow.

Gillingham, 23, swam impressively and looked capable of going much faster in the final later Sunday. He was hoping for a fast time after a poor year in which he finished only third in last January's Commonwealth Games.

Gillingham has been training hard to return to his best. He equalled the world record of 2:12.90 in the European Championships last August in Bonn only for American Mike Barrowman to swim one hundredth of a second faster the next day.

Barrowman's record is now 2:11.53.

Beth Barr of the United States continued her comeback after seriously hurting her arm in a horse riding accident last year.

Barr, the U.S. champion, looked set to add victory in the women's 100 metres backstroke to her win Friday in the 200 metres backstroke. She won the heats comfortably in 1:02.79.

American Jenny Thompson was still in the hunt for a hat-trick of wins after finishing fastest in the women's 100 metres freestyle in 56.84 and third fastest in the 200 metres individual medley behind Canada's Nancy Sweetnam.

Thompson, 17, has already won the 50 metres freestyle but will face a tough race in the medley, where she qualified less than a second behind Sweetnam's 2:19.87 and Yugoslav Anamarija Petricovic's 2:20.29.

Adam Schmitt of the United States was fastest qualifier in the men's 50 metres freestyle in 22.70 and U.S. champion Crissy Ahmann-Leighton won the heats in the women's 100 metres butterfly in 1:01.42.

Meanwhile Swedish swimmer Anders Holmertz says he is hardly known even at home but is a stunner burst of form suggests he may be about to emerge from the shadow of his rivals.

Holmertz, 21, completed a hat-trick in the 100, 200 and 400 metres freestyle events at the European Open Cup Championship.

In three days, he swam the third fastest ever 200 metres freestyle, smashed his own best time in the 100 metres freestyle and recorded the second fastest split on record in the 4 x 200 metres freestyle relay.

Graf avenges loss to Garrison

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Steffi Graf, reversing a loss at Wimbledon in early July, beat Zina Garrison 6-4, 7-5 in the semifinals of the Great American Bank tennis tournament.

After winning three of the last four games to take the first set Saturday, the top-ranked Graf overcame a 2-4 deficit in the second set to improve her 1990 record to 45-3.

Opposing Graf in the championship match was to be ninth-ranked Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere, who beat Barbara Paulus 6-0, 4-6, 6-1 in the other semifinal.

While she denied seeking re-

venge for the three-set semifinal loss at Wimbledon, Graf said there was extra satisfaction in winning against Garrison's aggressive game.

"The way she plays, taking power away from you and coming in on the approach, she's very tough," Graf said. "To come back after being down 2-4 in the match makes me very happy."

In her second-set comeback, Graf survived five break points to take a 6-5 lead.

The 11th game, which lasted 12 points, started with Graf falling behind 0-40, but the West German eventually prevailed with a

service winner and a passing shot off a short hop in the front court.

Graf then decided the match by breaking Garrison's serve in five points, winning on a backhand passing shot.

"I played well, but I missed some easy shots at the end that I normally make," said Garrison, who began the tournament Wednesday after battling the flu early in the week. "I felt a little tired, but you can't blame it on the (illness). My legs were a little bit rubbery, but Steffi kept the pressure on me. We were hitting a lot of balls and doing a lot of running."

Swedish hockey star breaks contract with Detroit team

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — Centre Johan Garpenlov will not play for the Detroit Red Wings this season because the National Hockey League (NHL) team failed to compensate his club in Sweden, it was reported Saturday.

"The payment deadline passed midnight Friday and Johan is staying with us," said Ake Bergdahl, chairman of Garpenlov's team, Djurgarden of Stockholm.

"We're very pleased that he shows solidarity."

Garpenlov, 22, signed a two-year contract worth a reported \$150,000 a year in May after starring for Sweden's silver medalists in the World Ice Hockey Championships. He became the 79th Swede to sign for a North American NHL team.

Although there is no agreement between the NHL and the Swedish Hockey Federation,

many North American teams are willing to pay Swedish clubs a flat fee of at least 200,000 Swiss francs (\$142,000) for each player.

Djurgarden's officials said they talked to the Detroit front office several times after Garpenlov signed his contract, "but they just ignored us," said Bergdahl.

Brian O'Neill, the NHL's vice president, is scheduled to visit Sweden this fall for talks with Swedish officials.

Martin gets Australian squash title

MELBOURNE, Australia (R) — Queenslander Rodney Martin recaptured the Australian squash title on Sunday with a solid victory over defending champion Chris Dittmar.

Fourth-seeded Martin, 24, was too nippy for his 26-year-old compatriot and won 15-11, 13-15, 15-9, 15-10.

Martin's victory was consolation for his sister Michelle's defeat by world number one Susan Devoy of New Zealand in the women's final.

Devoy, the number one seed, simply had too many shots for the brave seventh seed who won 13-15, 17-14, 15-10, 17-15.

Rodney Martin, who beat World Champion Jansher Khan of Pakistan 15-5, 15-8, 15-6 in Saturday's semifinal, continued

his form into the final despite believing he didn't play well.

"I wasn't too happy with the way I played today but you play to win," he said.

He took the first set from Dittmar with crisp smashes that left the left-handed third seed stranded.

Dittmar, winner in 1988 and 1989, got his game together enough to take the second 15-13 but Martin took control of the centre of the court from the start of the third game and was never headed.

He fell heavily at 7-5 in the fourth game and although he hobbled for a few minutes this did not stop him charging to his third Australian title in six years.

Both men repeatedly disputed calls in the fourth game but Ditt-

mar was keen to play down any dispute. "Rodney got some bad calls too. He played too well for me today," he said.

In the women's final, Devoy used her drop shots to devastating effect. Time and again it was a backhand drop to the corner of the court that won the points for her first Australian title.

"I've been worried since I got here. The girls are getting so much stronger," Devoy said. "I was pretty nervous playing Michelle. She played very well and I'm pleased I won."

It was the first time the men and the women's events were played together and the first time the women's event was part of the international circuit, counting for points in world rankings.

Whitaker knocks out Nazario in 1st round

LAKE TAHOE, Nevada (R) — American lightweight Pernell Whitaker, regarded as more of a boxer than a puncher, knocked out Puerto Rican Juan Nazario at 2:59 of the first round Saturday night to become only the second person recognized as world champion by all three major boxing sanctioning organizations.

Whitaker, who entered as the World Boxing Council and International Boxing Federation lightweight champ, captured the World Boxing Association 135-pound title by stopping Nazario.

Whitaker, who entered the fight as a 9-1 favourite, downed from 14-1, ended it with abrupt suddenness. Nazario went down from two quick blows — a right and short, chopping left to the head.

Nazario remained on the canvas for approximately one minute.

The bout was uneventful until those two punches at 2:49. Whitaker, recognized as perhaps the finest boxer and third-best all-around fighter in the sport, did little but flick right jabs.

Nazario, usually an aggressive brawler, never got on track, throwing few right jabs of his own, and even fewer combination lefts.

The 26-year-old Whitaker, 135 pounds, now has a record of 23-1 with 13 knockouts. It was his first knockout in the last three fights. Nazario, also 26 years and 135

pounds, drops his record to 22-3 with 16 knockouts. This was Nazario's first fight since winning the WBA title in April.

Whitaker, who received \$500,000, won the IBF title in February, 1989, and added the WBC championship title six months later. Nazario received \$450,000.

Whitaker joins heavyweight James "Buster" Douglas as the only person to be recognized as champion in their respective weight divisions by the WBC, WBA, and IBF.

In the junior welterweight semi-main event, undefeated Hector "Macho" Camacho, 140 pounds, breezed to an easy 12-round unanimous decision over fellow American Tony Baltazar, 140 pounds.

The fight was a mismatch from the opening bell with Camacho, the WBC super featherweight and lightweight champion during 1985 and 1986, peppering a plodding Baltazar with right jabs and occasional combination lefts.

Baltazar, whose only weapon is a left hook, never landed one to the head of the speedy Camacho. Baltazar's hooks to the body were blocked by Camacho's arm.

Camacho, a 5-1 favourite, landed 330 punches, while Baltazar, a former sparring partner of the winner, only connected with 101.

There were no knockdowns as

Camacho, who received one million dollars, improves his record to 44-0 with 17 knockouts. Camacho has scored only one knockout since January 1985. Baltazar, who received \$60,000, now is 35-4-1 with 29 knockouts.

Two judges had Camacho winning by nine points while the third judge had him ahead by seven points.

The fight was for the welterweight championship of the World Boxing Organisation, a new group that is not regarded as influential as the WBC, WBA, and IBF.

In a welterweight preliminary bout, former IBF junior welterweight champion Meldrick Taylor, 144 pounds, took a unanimous decision over veteran Primo Ramos, 143 pounds, in a 10-round, non-title affair.

Taylor, 25-1-1 with 14 knockouts, dominated the bout and won by seven points on one judge's scorecard and by five points on the other two judges' cards. It was the first bout for Taylor, a 10-1 favourite since he was dethroned by Julio Cesar Chavez in March.

Ramos, 39-7-1 with 28 knockouts, now has lost two 10-round decisions to Taylor, the first in another non-title fight in 1987. Both Taylor, 23, and Ramos, 30, are from the United States.

Collins recovers European title

LE-CAPE-D'AGDE, France (R) — British veteran Tom Collins recovered his European lightweight boxing title when he knocked out holder Eric Nicoletta of France in the ninth round of their scheduled 12-round fight Saturday.

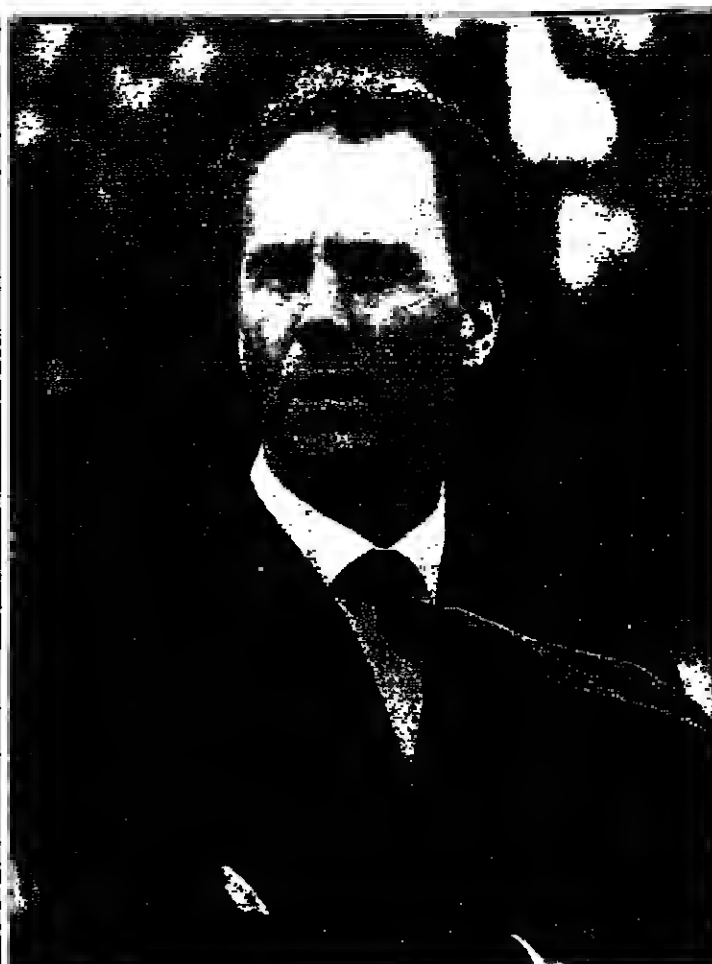
It came as an unexpected revenge for the 35-year-old Briton, who held the title in 1987 and 1988 before losing it to Dutchman Pedro Van Raamsdonck and appeared on the way down.

But Collins, who had suffered a 16th career defeat in 42 fights last year against Australian Jeff Harding for the World Boxing Council title, seemed to have recovered all his punching ability against Nicoletta.

The 30-year-old Frenchman, defending the title for the third time, seemed in control in the second round when he started Collins with a fine uppercut which prompted the referee to give a count against the Briton.

But the blow got Collins going. His longer reach and his power gradually weakened Nicoletta, who was in serious trouble in the fifth round after a strong hook from his opponent.

A lightning right in the ninth round downed the Frenchman, who hit the canvas for only the second time in his career and consequently lost all hope of a world title chance.



Franz Beckenbauer

Beckenbauer may join U.S. Soccer Federation

NEW YORK (R) — Franz Beckenbauer told a West German soccer magazine this week that he has reached an agreement to work with both the U.S. Soccer Federation and the 1994 World Cup, ending months of speculation.

"I will be part of the organization in the last two years before the World Cup," he told Kicker magazine. "It's clear that I also will look after the national team of the USA indirectly."

Beckenbauer, who coached West Germany to victory in the 1990 World Cup, resigned immediately after the win and said he would like to work for the United States team.

But a USSF official denied Saturday that any deal had been struck.

"I will deny it," said John Polis, the USSF's director of public relations. "There is no deal with Franz Beckenbauer. As you know, we have just had an election and we have a new president. He and his transition committee will look at everything. Any report along the lines of a major change like that would be premature."

Polis added that Bob Gansler, who coached the United States

team in the World Cup, would remain in that position.

Nevertheless, Beckenbauer is expected to join the USSF as the national team's technical director and a spokesman for the 1994 World Cup. Already signed to a long-term endorsement deal with Adidas, Beckenbauer will reportedly be loaned by the sportswear manufacturer to the USSF as a consultant.

Sources indicate Beckenbauer hammered out the details of such an agreement last month with Werner Fricker, then president of the USSF. But Fricker was voted out of office last week and the deal was put on hold.

Beckenbauer's appearance in the United States last week added credence to such reports.

Although scheduled to be the keynote speaker at the Soccer Federation's 77th anniversary dinner in Florida on Aug. 4 — Beckenbauer cancelled at the last minute — he still found time to make a public appearance in Chicago and play golf in southern California with Peter Ueberroth, a major stockholder in Adidas-USA. Ueberroth is a close friend of Alan Rothenberg, newly elected president of the USSF.

Novotna outlasts Smith to face Gildemeister in final

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico (AP) — Top-seeded Jana Novotna has survived a three-set battle at the net to beat third-seeded Anne Smith and make it to the final of the Virginia Slims of Albuquerque.

Novotna of Czechoslovakia defeated Smith 6-4, 6-7 (7-5), 7-5, and will play second-seeded Laura Gildemeister in the final of the \$150,000 Hardcourt tournament.

Gildemeister outplayed sixth-seeded Susan Sloane, 6-2, 6-2, earlier Saturday to earn her spot in the final.

Gildemeister, a baseline player, beat Novotna, a serve-and-volley player, earlier this year at the Virginia Slims of Florida in a three-set quarterfinal match.

"It's going to be tough," Gildemeister said of Sunday's final. But she said she plays well against people who rush the net.

"I have a good passing shot,"

she said, adding that she'll try to keep Novotna back.

"I will be trying to come in," Novotna said. "She's playing well."

Smith also played well against Novotna, who is ranked 14th in the world. She fought off three match points in the second set, once to hold serve and twice to break Novotna to tie it at 5-5.

Smith held off two other match points in the final set but Novotna's powerful return down the line was too much.

Novotna and Smith played a fast-paced match, rushing the net at nearly every point.

Gildemeister, ranked 19th in the world, served well and hit dazzling shots down the line and across the court to keep Sloane out of the match.

"I think I overpowered her, said Gildemeister of Peru. "I was hitting the ball really hard. I was moving her a lot."

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNIAH HIRSH
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GIVE PARTNER A HELPING HAND

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K 9
♥ K 9
♦ J 9 3
♣ A J 9 8 6 4

WEST
♠ 10 8 5
♥ 8 6 4 2
♦ K 7 6 2
♣ 7 5

EAST
♠ A Q 4 2
♥ J 5 3
♦ Q 10 8 5
♣ K 2

SOUTH
♠ J 7 6 3
♥ A Q 10 7
♦ A 4
♣ Q 10 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
3 NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠.
A word to the wise: Your partner is your best friend. It is incumbent on you to do everything you can to make his lot easier. This hand is typical of what you should do to ease the strain on partner.

There is much to be said in favor of a two-no-trump response by North—it could be vital to protect the major-suit kings from attack on opening lead. The final contract would have been the same, and even the opening lead might have been in

the same suit.
As the cards lie, West did well to lead fourth-best from his strongest suit. Had he tried a heart from such an unpromising collection in an attempt to hit partner's suit, declarer would have coasted home. As it is, East inserted the eight of diamonds on the first trick and declarer held up. The five of diamonds return was taken by the ace and the club finesse lost to East's king.

East cashed the queen of diamonds and exited with the ten to West's king. West went into a trance, then shifted to a heart, and declarer had the rest of the tricks.

East was vociferous in claiming that the order in which his diamonds were played demanded a spade return, and in the highest expert circles that argument might have some validity. In everyday rubber bridge, however, it was naive. In the words of a noted philosopher, East should "take the cash and let the credit go."

When in with the king of clubs, East should have cashed the ace of spades and then continued diamonds. True, that conceded a potential extra undertrick, but it would have put partner under no pressure and assured the contract's defeat.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY AUGUST 13, 1990

By Thomas S. Pearson, Astrologer, Carroll Ralston Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You could be all stirred-up today, to find out where you really stand with others. Be certain to state clearly your own viewpoints in a non-controversial manner.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Be careful not to get involved in a scheme presented to you during the day and in the evening be with a progressive friend who fascinates you.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Delay a drastic change until more information is available to you while in the evening you can handle any public matters with dispatch.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Don't try to get out from under a promise made even though you are bored by it; then tonight you can be off to some interesting new activities.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Whatever brings you potential confrontation with a partner should be sidestepped after which you can get into various interests you enjoy.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You want to do something that could cause friction on your job but don't. After a morning soothing by a co-worker get out and meet several personalities.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Put off some pleasure that could cause friction with another person and then you will be able to

get at pending duties and do them well.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Think twice before you give a sassy answer to a message, communication but late you can be with an unusual playmate for a fascinating pleasure.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Think carefully before you make some expenditure that comes up in the morning whip afterwards you can find ways to make your home more exciting.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Be sure of your facts and figures before you act as an expert on a subject; then you can get into all kinds of interesting sources of data you want.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Don't let anxiety over a private matter keep you from carrying out promises but after you find it possible to locate new original property improvement.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) An acquaintance could waste a good deal of your time during the daytime if you allow but in the evening several friends can join with you in fun recreation.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Keep out of the public eye in a dramatic way during the day when you will be able to quietly organize your life to bring forth unique results.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"I like my job — it's the work, bosses, co-workers and responsibilities that I don't like!"

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

10 POCUE

11 TYTID

Banks in Pakistan report government misuse of funds

KARACHI (AP) — Corruption and interference under the government of ousted prime minister Benazir Bhutto has left many state-owned financial institutions on the verge of bankruptcy, banking officials said Saturday.

The officials said the problem became so serious that the World Bank had cut its credit line to many banks and financial institutions and threatened to stop all credit unless measures were taken to correct the practices.

President Ghulam Ishaq Khan abruptly dismissed Bhutto's government Aug. 6, citing a variety of charges ranging from widespread corruption among senior officials to abuse of power.

Bhutto has denied the allegations, claiming they were part of a witch hunt by political opponents.

"We made mistakes but our performance exceeds our mistakes," she said at a news conference at her seaside home in Karachi. "No doubt we made mistakes but that was because some cabinet ministers and leaders were inexperienced. We know our mistakes."

The new caretaker government has started to replace the heads of state-owned banks to try to demonstrate its commitment to rooting out corruption and nepotism. Many analysts say it could be seen as a move to discredit the 37-year-old former prime minister.

Many of the current claimants of state-owned banks and financial institutions are believed to have gotten their jobs with the help of Asif Ali Zardari, Bhutto's husband. Zardari, who wed Bhutto in 1987 arranged marriage, is expected to be a target in a judicial inquiry.

Pakistani banks were nationalized during the 1970s by Bhutto's father, the late prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. Nationalized banks have never been free from corruption and successive governments have used them for political patronage.

But senior banking officials in Karachi, the country's financial centre, say corruption and government interference crossed all limits during Bhutto's administration.

"The unprecedented plunder has left most of the banks on the verge of bankruptcy," said one banking official, insisting on anonymity.

The situation became so serious that the World Bank had not only cut off its credit line to many banks and state-owned financial institutions, but also threatened to stop all credit if steps were not taken to reverse the practices.

In a letter to Bhutto's government last month, the regional vice president of the World Bank drew attention toward the misuse of bank resources and warned that Pakistan would not set adv-

ance credit line next year.

Banking officials alleged that members of Bhutto's family and government used the banks to secure huge loans for their friends with little or no collateral.

"The banks had become a personal fund for them," said an official of the government-controlled Development Finance Corporation. "Loans were advanced to their cronies just on telephone calls."

Officers who resisted the arbitrary orders were fired, said the official, who also spoke on condition of anonymity.

According to an article in the latest issue of the respected monthly magazine Newsline, the president of the National Bank of Pakistan was dismissed after he refused to approve a huge loan to an industrial group with ties to the government.

A former president of the Development Finance Corporation also was fired when he objected to an overvaluation of a piece of land in a hotel project in Islamabad.

Several of Bhutto's cabinet ministers and leaders of her Pakistan People's Party also used their influence for personal gain, the magazine said. The government sanctioned at least eight sugar mills in southern Sindh, Bhutto's home province, and all given to party leaders who had no experience in industry, it said.

Malaysia may boost oil output

KUALA LUMPUR (AP) — Malaysia may increase its crude oil production because of the crisis in the Middle East, Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar Baba said Sunday.

Ghafar said Malaysia may have to increase its production, now at 590,000 barrels per day, to ensure that its economic development and industrial activities are not adversely affected.

Malaysian officials fear that a further escalation of the Middle East crisis could result in a drop in trade for Malaysia. Malaysia is joining the trade embargo on Iraq and Kuwait, and as a result stands to lose about \$170 million in trade per year.

Ghafar told reporters that the Middle East crisis had resulted in a drop in production of five million barrels of crude oil a day due to the disruption of production in Iraq and Kuwait.

Ghafar said he hoped the crisis would end quickly so that economic activities throughout the world could continue smoothly.

Malaysia consumes 175,000 barrels per day and the remainder is exported, mainly to Japan and South Korea.

Ghafar said Malaysia's exports of palm oil to Iraq had also been affected by the crisis.

Yugoslavia, Romania join trade embargo against Iraq

Meanwhile, a government official said in Belgrade Sunday that Yugoslavia's decision to comply with a U.N. Security Council call to curtail trade with Iraq will hit his nation harder than most others.

Severe and wide-ranging sanctions banning virtually all trade with Iraq and Kuwait were adopted last week by the United Nations Security Council in the wake of Iraq's invasion of its oil-rich neighbour.

"The international boycott of Iraq has been unique and... most unfavourable position in comparison with other countries," declared Bozo Jovanovic, Yugoslav deputy minister of foreign trade. He was quoted Sunday in several state-run newspapers.

He said Yugoslav firms, mostly construction companies, were currently engaged on projects in Iraq worth over \$1 billion, and that Yugoslavia had a significant "strike" in the Iraqi economy.

Iraq's debt to Yugoslavia stands at \$1.1 billion. It has been repaying this by delivering crude oil to Yugoslav refineries at well below the world market price.

More than 10,000 Yugoslavs are at present employed in that country, he said. Iraqi authorities have allowed them to leave the country if they so wished.

Iraqi crude accounts for 3.2 million tons of Yugoslavia's annual oil consumption of 16 million tons, according to official statistics.

Saturday, Romania's government also decided to impose the sanctions decreed by the U.N. Security Council.

All state institutions, and private persons are forbidden to import any goods or products from either Iraq or Kuwait, according to a government decree.

They are also forbidden to do anything that "might promote the export or the transit of any of their goods," it said.

A government official said that Iraq owes Romania \$1.7 billion. Romania has set a priority on "protecting" its 3,050 citizens who work in the Gulf area, government officials said, without elaboration.

Nigeria wants to increase oil production

LAGOS (AP) — Nigeria is willing to increase oil production by 280,000 barrels daily if other OPEC members agree. Oil Minister Jubril Aminu said Sunday.

The minister summoned oil company executives to Lagos to discuss implementing the increase within two days notice. "I believe that it is unfair for Saudi Arabia and Venezuela alone to take up whatever shortfall that has been created by the tension in the Gulf," Aminu said. He added, "OPEC does not want any supply scarcity and will move to avert this decisively." He said if the tension continues OPEC probably will have to hold a meeting to assign new production quotas.

Nigeria's quota is 1.61 million barrels daily. Aminu said the higher prices will benefit Nigeria, but "we do not want higher prices brought by war. In this particular situation it is OPEC members that are warring on each other."

The minister said he had already discussed the proposed increase with other OPEC members but he did not elaborate.

Egypt likely to receive Western financial reward

CAIRO (R) — The Gulf crisis could hit Egypt's faltering economy hard but the West will probably throw its weight behind a country seen as a bulwark against Iraq's Saddam Hussein, economists said Sunday.

The price of Egypt's oil exports has gone up. But the major earners of tourism, Suez Canal fees and remittances from workers in Kuwait and Iraq are in for a jolt.

"Egypt is a bulwark against Saddam's view of history... this has increased its importance in this part of the world," said a Western diplomat. "It will stand it in good stead when it goes to negotiate a settlement with the IMF."

Diplomats said President Hosni Mubarak gave a masterful performance in rallying Arab support for Saudi Arabia and the West against Iraq following its invasion of Kuwait.

They say his stand won broad grassroots support from his countrymen, who harbour bitter resentment over reported mistreatment of Egyptian workers in Iraq.

The West would not want a weak economy to undermine this when anti-Western feeling is running high elsewhere in the Middle East, diplomats say.

Egypt, with a foreign debt of around \$50 billion, has been negotiating with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for more than two years for an agreement on economic reform.

Chances of an early accord diminished last month when the IMF said Egypt had not done enough to cut its budget deficit.

A Western economist said that since the crisis the United States was now more unlikely than ever to invoke the Brooke amendment, a U.S. law that would cut off all aid if Egypt failed to make payments on military debt more than one year overdue.

Arrears were especially high for the last four months of 1989 and the crunch could have come as soon as next month.

Economists say Egypt earns roughly \$3 billion a year from oil, tourism and the Suez Canal, with each contributing about the same amount. Another \$4 billion comes from remittances from workers abroad.

Tourism could be hit hard although one tour operator said Sunday there had been no impact yet.

Remittances from Egyptians in Kuwait are almost certain to fall. Government officials are bracing themselves for at least some of more than one million workers in Iraq to come flooding home.

The international embargo on oil from Iraq and Kuwait will mean fewer tankers passing through the Suez Canal and less oil shipped through a pipeline from the Gulf of Suez to the Mediterranean.

Economists said future financial aid from Kuwait would also fall. But recent donations — including wheat purchases through the end of the year and a \$200 million loan for an irrigation project in Sinai — would probably not be hurt.

With oil exports of around 300,000 barrels a day, each dollar increase in the world price would gross Cairo roughly \$100 million extra per year.

Average world oil prices have oscillated around \$24 per barrel since the invasion. Previously, a range of \$18 to \$20 had been predicted for the rest of the year.

But higher oil prices could also boost Egypt's bill for oil-based imports.

Gulf Arab oil riches support banking system under stress

DUBAI (R) — Faith in the banking systems of Gulf Arab states was shaken by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait but the region's oil wealth has helped it weather the storm, bankers say.

The turmoil has also been the first real test of the region's young central banks.

Bank treasury managers said the monetary authorities had survived their baptism of fire but were slow to react to the crisis. There were communications problems in some places when banks first started hanging on central bank doors for funds.

A run on cash by depositors, who feared war embarrased even the biggest local banks and put some of the smaller, less steady institutions into trouble.

But Gulf foreign exchange dealers said Sunday that the monetary authorities in Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Bahrain, and Qatar were in the market and nerves had calmed.

The treasury managers said the main problem since Iraq invaded Kuwait Aug. 2 was a crisis over how to meet sudden large demands for cash, rather than the possibility of a collapse of the banking system altogether.

"This region is always awash with liquidity. What happened last week was due to an unheard of run on cash," said a Saudi bank dealer.

All over the Gulf, banks found themselves suddenly out of dollar bills and even travellers cheques were disappearing fast. Large corporate depositors also started to shift money out of the region.

But barring a major Gulf war and destruction of large parts of the Gulf states' oil production capacity there is no real threat to their currencies.

Gulf states' governments sit on vast assets built up from their exports of oil and oil products. Ironically, the Gulf tension, which at one point boosted oil prices by almost double to just below \$30 per barrel, makes them even richer.

Saudi Arabia, at last week's world price for Saudi light crude of about \$23 a barrel, minus production costs of around \$1 per barrel, is earning around \$85 million per day from its crude alone.

This is \$2.5 billion per month, or eight times the amount that U.S. military analysts estimate it could cost Washington to keep its large military presence in the region for the same period.

"The oil is the main reason we did not see why we should panic," said the treasury manager at a large Saudi bank.

But Saudi bankers said there was an ominous silence at one point in the middle of last week when some banks found they could not get through to the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) to ask for funds to cover themselves.

This turned out to be mainly a problem of getting hold of the right officials, and bankers said SAMA was now supporting the market and had told all banks to honour depositor demands, indicating SAMA would help if necessary.

However, SAMA has made no public announcement to calm the situation and some bankers criticised its traditional obsession with secrecy at such a time.

"They have a lot to learn about Greenspan-style money management," said one banker, referring to U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan's fabled public statements aimed at calming the market's tendency to extreme behaviour.

Last Thursday, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) central bank was the first Gulf monetary authority to ask for calm, telling nervous depositors it had over three times more assets than UAE currency in circulation and ruled out panic rumours of devaluation.

The Bahrain Monetary Authority (BMA) also acted to calm the market.

Sunday the central bank of Oman, where there was less panic, assured depositors it would support any and all demands of the Omani rial.

market and had told all banks to honour depositor demands, indicating SAMA would help if necessary.

However, SAMA has made no public announcement to calm the situation and some bankers criticised its traditional obsession with secrecy at such a time.

"They have a lot to learn about Greenspan-style money management," said one banker, referring to U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan's fabled public statements aimed at calming the market's tendency to extreme behaviour.

Last Thursday, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) central bank was the first Gulf monetary authority to ask for calm, telling nervous depositors it had over three times more assets than UAE currency in circulation and ruled out panic rumours of devaluation.

The Bahrain Monetary Authority (BMA) also acted to calm the market.

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He reiterated earlier calls for the Federal Reserve, the central banking authority of the United States, to lower interest rates, the newspaper said.

Russia invalidates diamond contracts, claims resources

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia, the largest Soviet republic, has declared invalid contracts signed by the central government to sell its abundant natural resources, including billion of dollars worth of uncut diamonds to De Beers, TASS reported Saturday.

The declaration, approved Friday, opens a critical battle between the national government and the resource-rich Russian republic over both the acquisition of badly needed foreign currency and the division of power.

TASS said the order invalidates all contracts signed without Russia's approval to sell the republic's diamonds, metals, oil, gas, uranium and even any manufactured product it considers strategic. In the Soviet Union, where shortages have reached epidemic proportions, a "strategic" product could be anything.

Russia is the largest and richest of the 15 Soviet republics, with 75 per cent of its land and much of its natural resources.

Most republics have been talking about gaining control over their own resources from the national government, but Russia's attempt to halt the De Beers deal would be the first concrete step.

Under the current command economy, all resources and products are simply handed over to the central government, at prices set by Soviet bureaucrats. The officials then redistribute everything around the country.

Russian leaders, including republic President Boris Yeltsin, believe they cannot make fundamental changes in their econo-

mies as long as this system continues, and they have no control or profit from their natural wealth and labour.

TASS did not say how the declaration would be enforced or give any other details.

The official Soviet news agency said the Kremlin has continued to sell Russian resources abroad since the republic proclaimed its sovereignty June 12, often without notifying the Russian government.

It said the last straw was the "deal of the century," the exclusive five-year deal with De Beers to market the Soviet Union's rough diamond output.

The deal, which ties up Russia's diamond production for the next five years, is estimated to be worth \$5 billion. The national government was to receive a \$1 billion loan immediately.

The Soviet Union is one of the world's biggest gem diamond producers, and most of its stones come from the Yakutia region of northeastern Siberia. Moscow does not disclose the value of its diamond output.

TASS said the Russian parliament only learned about the July 25 agreement between De Beers and Glavalmazoloto, the Soviet diamond and precious metals marketing body, through newspaper accounts.

There has been no formal reaction to the Russian announcement, but TASS quoted an unnamed official of the ministry of foreign economic relations as saying it will hurt the Soviet economy.

"The statements of the Russian parliament... can lead to losing

confidence in Soviet organisations as trading partners and may lead to economic losses," TASS quoted him as saying.

Yeltsin has said he will cooperate with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in moving to a market economy, but that his first priority is defending Russia's interests.

Russia is also the source of much of the Soviet Union's oil, another key hard currency export. The Soviet Union is the world's biggest oil producer, and its largest oil region is the sprawling Tyumen fields of Western Siberia.

Pravda reported Saturday that while the Kremlin and the republics are waging the resource ownership debate, a third party is claiming the "black gold" of the Tyumen oil fields.

The praisidium of the obscure autonomous region of Khanty Manysky, which is part of Russia, claimed ownership of its land and resources, including the Tyumen oil, the paper said.

Pravda quoted opponents of the decision as saying all Soviet republics and the central government invested billions of roubles in developing the north, so the region's oil production and minerals should belong to every-

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES					
Sunday, August 12, 1990 Central Bank official rates					
	Buy	Sell		Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	659.0	663.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	438.1	440.7
Pound Sterling	1234.7	1242.1	Dutch guilder	367.8	370.0
Deutschemark	414.4	416.9	Swedish crown	112.7	113.4
Swiss franc	492.4	495.4	Italian lira (for 100)	56.9	57.9
French franc	123.6	124.3	Belgian franc (for 10)	201.6	202.8

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Aircraft complicate European conventional weapons treaty

VIENNA (R) — Hopes of reaching agreement on conventional arms levels in Europe before a November deadline are being jeopardised by the thorny problem of how to classify aircraft. NATO delegates say.

The issue is complicating talks on a 23-nation Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) treaty, a key component of any new security order in a Europe including a united Germany.

A Nov. 17 summit of 35 countries involved in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) will discuss the new security order.

"We are condemned to succeed, not just because the treaty is desirable, but because it is a key element in the summit," one NATO delegate said.

Delegates to the CFE talks took a final brief break Friday before regrouping for a final session due to start in the first week in September.

Central to the treaty, though not spelled out, will be a limitation on the size of the armed forces of united Germany, a major concern for the Soviet Union

and some other Warsaw Pact members worried about a resurgence of German military might.

The question of aircraft was not included in the original mandate for the CFE talks but was added last year at Soviet insistence. Since then it has proved to be a difficult nut to crack, as NATO has feared.

The chances of getting agreement on aircraft are "at best 50-50," according to one senior NATO delegate.

At the heart of the problem are land-based naval aircraft, which Moscow wants to exclude from the treaty, and combat helicopters.

NATO argues that Soviet naval planes are virtually indistinguishable from their conventional air force, and to exclude them would create a large loophole for possible circumvention of the treaty.

"The Soviets could build completely new types of military aircraft, and keep them out of the treaty by simply painting them blue," one delegate said.

"It is important for the West to get a handle on Soviet air power,

since with the pulling back of Soviet ground forces Moscow will have to rely much more on their air forces."

The question of helicopters is complicated by disagreement over how many craft capable of firing missiles, so-called "tank-busters", can be dismantled and re-classified as "combat support" craft, which are outside the treaty.

Another more general problem emerging in the talks is setting limits on the number of tanks, guns and planes that any one country can have, the so-called "sufficiency rule."

Faced with the virtual disintegration of the Warsaw Pact, the Soviet Union is demanding higher individual ceilings than NATO — and its former allies now independent of Moscow and eager to stay that way — are prepared to accept.

"With the effective demise of pact, Moscow sees everything in terms of the Soviet Union versus NATO," a Western delegate said.

While the West has proposed

that no country hold more than 30 per cent of the overall ceiling for arms set for one or other alliance, Moscow has demanded 35-40 per cent.

Senior officials of six Warsaw Pact countries met recently in Moscow and plan another session in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, to try to work out how to divide up the ceiling including the share originally allocated to East Germany.

"The sufficiency rule is causing real difficulties for the Warsaw Pact," a NATO delegate said.

Meanwhile Moscow Radio reported Sunday that the Soviet Union will reduce its naval personnel in the Pacific by 200,000 officers and men by next April.

The report said 57 warships had been withdrawn from the Pacific over the last five years and 16 more would be cut by the end of 1990.

The Pacific fleet cuts followed a broad withdrawal of Soviet troops in Eastern Europe and Mongolia as the Kremlin focuses limited resources on strengthening its wobbly economy and building trade ties with the West.

Suspected rebels kill 116 Muslims in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Tamil guerrillas killed at least 116 people in an assault on five Muslim villages in Sri Lanka's escalating ethnic war, military officials reported Sunday.

The officials said about 50 gunmen threw hand grenades into houses and raked the villages with machine-gun fire late Saturday. The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said 116 bodies were counted Sunday and about 40 people were critically wounded.

The attacks were on villages west of the town of Eravur, on Sri Lanka's Tamil-dominated east coast, roughly 200 kilometres east of Colombo.

Before attacking, the assailants "first hacked to death Muslim religious men in a mosque to prevent them from using the loudspeakers to warn of the attack," said Mohammad Sali, of the Muslim Refugee Relief Organisation.

The reports could not be independently confirmed.

The shooting lasted three hours, and villagers fled into the jungle to escape, said Sali. He said army troops arrived on the scene Sunday morning from their camp at Chenkaladi about five kilometres away.

The largest of the stricken villages was called Saddam Hussein after the Iraqi leader who sent building assistance several years ago.

On Aug. 3 gunmen raided another eastern village and killed 140 Muslims inside two mosques. The incident set off a chain reaction of vengeance killings.

The government blamed the Tamil Tigers, who later denied responsibility, and charged that the assailants were government agents trying to inject religious hatreds into the area.

Before Saturday's incident, 193 Muslims and about 60 Tamil civilians had died in the latest round of fighting, according to military accounts. Nearly 60 Sinhalese civilians also were killed in attacks attributed to the Tigers.

Tamil insurgents seeking independence from the Sinhalese-dominated Sri Lankan government broke a 13-month ceasefire on June 11. Though Muslims are not directly involved, the government says Tamils suspect them of acting as informers for the military.

Muslims say they are neutral in the conflict. Since the fighting resumed, government troops have consolidated their hold on the east coast villages, forcing the Tigers into the jungle. The Tigers remain in control in the northern Jaffna peninsula.

In New Delhi, Indian newspapers reported Sunday that 34 Tamil refugees, including 12 children, drowned when their boat capsized while fleeing the fighting in the north. Two women and three children survived.

Germans mark Berlin Wall anniversary with joy

EAST BERLIN (R) — Germans from East and West Sunday marked the anniversary of the Berlin Wall's construction with joy instead of pain for the first time in 29 years.

When East Germany's Communists began work on the wall on Aug. 13, 1961, it was to stem an exodus of Germans to the West. A similar exodus brought down the wall last November.

"This year Aug. 13 is being marked against the background of Germany's growing together," said East German Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere in a statement.

"But in our joy at the fall of the wall we should not forget the lasting effects of that division. Those 29 years of isolation inflicted wounds that will only heal slowly."

Early Sunday, Bonn Parliamentarian Heinrich Lummer and a group of West Germans placed a wreath at the eternal flame memorial to the victims of fascism in central East Berlin.

They then crossed to the West, past what remains of the Berlin Wall where tourists were chipping away their piece of history, to lay flowers at a monument on the other side.

The message on the wreaths was identical: "To the victims of the wall." Eighty people died trying to escape to the West.

Further ceremonies are planned for Monday.

On Sunday Aug. 13, 1961, troops and workers' militia units sealed the border around West Berlin and began building the wall that was to stand — almost impenetrably with its guards, dogs, tripwires and guns — until Nov. 9 last year.

On that day, senior East German Communist Party official Guenter Schabowski announced travel restrictions were being liberalised, a statement that was interpreted as meaning the borders were being flung open. And that is what happened.

"The opening of the wall was unprepared and, in that sense, the last irresponsible act of the (ruling Communist) politburo," said Richard Schroeder, a Social Democrat in the East German parliament that was democratically elected last March.

"The wall was a wall against truth. It went up in 1961 because people were running away and was opened in 1989 because people were running away," he said, referring to the Westward exodus that sparked the pro-democracy protests last year.

A year ago, the Communist Party daily Neues Deutschland rolled out its usual pro-wall editorial, saying the frontier had been sealed to stop the West bleeding the East white.

"Aug. 13 above all gave us peace and security for our socialist construction," it said and printed pictures of the 25 border guards who were killed at the frontier. No mention was made of the civilians who died in escape attempts.

Then party leader Erich Honecker, who as security chief supervised the building of the wall, said not long before the uprising that led to his downfall that the wall would stand for 100 years if necessary.

Liberals form first unified German party

HANOVER, West Germany (AP) — Liberals in East and West Germany have formed the first unified German political party, effectively launching the campaign for the Germans' first unified elections in nearly 60 years.

Representatives of West Germany's Free Democrats and East Germany's Alliance of Liberal Parties voted to merge their groups into one party under the name "FDP — the Liberals."

They elected Otto Graf Lambsdorff, leader of the West German Liberals, as chairman.

The Free Democrats' most prominent member, Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, stressed that his party wanted unification as quickly as possible. He said it would be a chance for "Germany's Liberal renewal."

Germans want "nothing else than to live in freedom and unity and peace with all our neighbours," Genscher said.

He called for further steps to

ward disarmament, saying nuclear weapons "no longer have a place in the new Europe."

The Free Democrats are the junior member of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's governing coalition.

The Germans are planning unified elections on Dec. 2. But when East Germany will vote to merge with the West under a provision of Bonn's constitution remains a question.

The parliament in East Berlin last week called for unification and all-German elections on Oct. 14, the same day as elections to create five states mirroring the federalist system in the West.

But the West German parliament rejected early elections in a major setback for Kohl, who critics charge wants elections held before the full financial brunt of assuming East Germany is felt.

East German Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere said late last week that it was "conceivable" his country could still vote to merge with the West on Oct. 14.

Pakistan cracks down on Bhutto supporters

KARACHI, Pakistan (R) — Pakistan's caretaker government cracked down on former Premier Benazir Bhutto's supporters Sunday, arresting eight people including a senior official who tried to board a London-bound plane, police said.

But government officials said they made no attempt to stop Bhutto's mother Nusrat Bhutto from leaving on the same Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) flight.

"Begum Nusrat Bhutto is not on the exit control list and therefore the question of trying to prevent her from leaving the country does not arise," Hussain Haqqani, spokesman for Pakistan's caretaker prime minister, said in Islamabad.

K.M. Talponi, managing director of the state-run Home Construction Corporation, was taken off the aircraft at Karachi airport and sent back to the city under escort, police said.

During pre-dawn raids, police swooped on the homes of more than 50 people in what appeared to be the first crackdown on Bhutto supporters since her government was sacked by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan last Monday.

But police said most of them were absent and a total of eight arrests were made. They said dozens of Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) leaders and activists had gone underground.

Among those arrested were Fahim Mughal, a senior official assigned to Bhutto's residence in Karachi, and two men connected with Bhutto's businessman husband Asif Ali Zardari.

Colombian police kill no. 3 in drug cartel

BOGOTA (R) — Colombian police stormed a heavily-fortified house and shot dead the number three leader of the Medellin cocaine cartel, the Colprensa news agency reported.

It said Gustavo Gaviria, cousin of drug lord Pablo Escobar, died in a 15-minute shootout Saturday in a Medellin suburb involving more than 100 members of the police elite corps.

A police spokesman said a man had been shot dead in an operation Saturday afternoon but could not confirm his identity.

Other police officers in Medellin, about 250 kilometres north-west of Bogota, refused to give any information.

The death of Gustavo Gaviria was the biggest blow to the Medellin cartel since another leader, Jose Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha, was shot dead by police in December.

It was also an early success for President Cesar Gaviria, who took office just four days ago pledging to stamp out drug violence.

Gustavo Gaviria was a close ally of Escobar, fugitive boss of the Medellin cartel and Colombia's most-wanted trafficker.

His death could provoke a new upsurge of violence after two weeks of relative calm since the drug traffickers declared a truce in a year-long war against the government in which hundreds of people died.

Colprensa said army units around Medellin were put on alert because of the risk of retaliation for Gaviria's death.

It said more than 100 members of the elite corps surrounded a building where Gustavo Gaviria was hiding in the Alameda suburb of southwestern Medellin.

Armenian president asserts control by embracing paramilitary groups

By Ralph Boulton
Reuters

YEREVAN, Soviet Union — Armenia's new nationalist president has invited paramilitary groups labelled bandits by Moscow into his parliament in a theatrical gesture designed to demonstrate his control of the republic.

The move seemed unlikely to ease Kremlin fears of conflagration in a region that has produced the most bloody clashes in five years of perestroika.

But the streets of the capital Yerevan were calm at the weekend despite rumours of possible confrontation between rival groups.

President Levon Ter-Petrosian appointed the soldiers, dressed in jeans or battle fatigues and carrying rifles and sub-machineguns, as the official Parliamentary Guard Saturday. Deputies supported the move almost unanimously.

"They have not been into the actual chamber," Ter-Petrosian told a news conference. "There is nothing unusual about this guard. I was in the Kremlin just a couple of days ago and they have a whole division looking after them there."

The soldiers stood guard in the courtyard of the pink-stone building, sat in the stairwells and sipped coffee with official blue-uniformed police officers in the cafeteria.

The group arrived at parliament with their guns Friday after Ter-Petrosian persuaded Soviet

President Mikhail Gorbachev to call off a threatened army crackdown. Gorbachev had insisted that armed groups throughout the country hand in their weapons by Thursday.

Most of the Armenian groups had been patrolling on the troubled border with Azerbaijan.

Ter-Petrosian said he told Moscow the groups, which he estimated at 5,000 strong, had formed in reaction to bloody attacks on Armenians by Azeris early this year in the Azerbaijani cities of Baku and Kirovabad.

"The majority have already declared their loyalty to parliament," he said. "I expect the rest to follow... and do not believe I will have to use extreme measures."

The official Soviets press has portrayed the groups as largely criminal bands. Senior military officers, forced to watch helplessly as they have grown in power and influence, had implored Moscow to let them take action.

In the last few months large stocks of arms have been seized in attacks on police and Interior Ministry posts. Dozens of people have been killed and injured in clashes.

Ter-Petrosian hopes to defuse tension by bringing about 2,000 paramilitaries into the police and persuading the rest to disarm within Gorbachev's new two-month deadline.

Eventually all troops deemed "healthy elements" could be absorbed with the creation of a national army, likely to be the first such independent force to

emerge in the Soviet Union. Some deputies are less optimistic than Ter-Petrosian about the task facing Armenia.

"What we have seen over the last few months is a flourishing of criminal elements," Rafael Kazaryan, a nationalist supporter, said. "People began to think of defence and to seize arms, but many of the weapons fell into the wrong hands."

Most soldiers of the largest group, the Armenian National Army (ANA), questioned by Reuters, said they were ready to surrender their arms and were willing to join the regular police.

"This has got to happen. We must join in a truly united Armenian force," ANA officer Herand Militosyan said in his small hut overlooking Yerevan.

But there are fears that rivalries between commanders reluctant to part with the power conferred by large armories could delay or thwart Ter-Petrosian's plans.

The disarming of the groups will be only a first step in Ter-Petrosian's campaign for an Armenian state independent of the Kremlin's control. However, Gorbachev and the Armenian president, men from different ends of the political spectrum, share a keen interest in its success.

A complete breakdown in order and the subsequent dispatch of central Soviet troops could stir a bloody conflict that would threaten the authority of both men.

Bonn to offer Moscow joint exercises

WEST BERLIN (R) — West Germany plans to offer Moscow the chance to participate in joint manoeuvres on East German territory after unification, a West Berlin newspaper reported Sunday.

The Berliner Morgenpost said Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher would make the proposal when he visits Moscow to negotiate a stationing and with-

drawal treaty with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze next Friday.

There are about 360,000 Soviet troops based in East Germany and almost as many dependants and civilian staff.

Under a deal Bonn reached with the Kremlin last month, the entire contingent will be withdrawn to the Soviet Union by the mid-1990s. The two German states will unite later this year.

According to Bonn's version of the draft treaty, Soviet forces will not be allowed to play war games outside their huge camps in what is now East Germany, the newspaper said.

But "on invitation and with approval" some units would be allowed to join all-German military exercises. In Bonn, the Foreign Ministry said it could not confirm the report.

U.S. withholds information on priests' slaying, Jesuits say

SAN SALVADOR (R) — U.S. military intelligence has declined to release documents on the slaying of six Jesuit priests in El Salvador last November on grounds they could damage U.S. national security, a top Jesuit and lawyers say.

The U.S. Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA) has told lawyers representing the Jesuit order that it holds 21 documents relating to the killings, for which a Salvadoran colonel and seven other soldiers are awaiting trial.

"They say 'we can't release them for national security reasons', a representative of the New York-based lawyers Committee for Human Rights said.

The six priests, their housekeeper and her daughter were shot dead on the campus of the Jesuit-run Central American University before dawn on Nov. 16 last year, during a major offen-

sive by leftist rebels. The case has drawn international attention. Jose Maria Tojeira, the Jesuit provincial for Central America, said in remarks broadcast earlier Friday that such a refusal showed the United States was obstructing progress in the case.

"There is a U.S. spying agency... which says it has 21 documents on the Jesuit case. When we ask them to show the documents through a firm of U.S. lawyers, they refuse because they say they harm U.S. security," Tojeira told reporters. "Why do they say that? I don't know. But they are not collaborating."

A U.S. embassy spokesman in El Salvador confirmed Saturday the documents had not been released but said the embassy was trying to help the investigation advance.

"Any information we feel could be helpful and important to

the authorities prosecuting the case we have shared with them," the spokesman said.

He added he could not say whether information contained in the documents had been given to Salvadoran investigators.

The government of President Alfredo Cristiani initially blamed guerrillas of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) for the killings, as did U.S. Ambassador William Walker.

But in January Cristiani announced the arrest of army Colonel Guillermo Benavides and seven other soldiers on charges of taking part in the killings.

A DIA letter to lawyers acting for the Jesuits, dated May 16, 1990, gives no explanation of how the documents could affect U.S. national security but says they are free to appeal the decision.

World leaders to turn attention to children

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The world's most powerful people will give their attention to the weakest at the world summit for children next month.

Heads of state of 60 countries have agreed to meet at U.N. headquarters on Sept. 29-30 to discuss ways of improving the lot of millions of children whose lives are threatened by poverty, disease or malnutrition.

Officials of UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund, is organising the summit. James P. Grant, executive director of UNICEF, said he hoped it would produce global acceptance of the idea that children have a "first call" on society's resources.

He urged the national leaders to establish such goals for the 1990s as immunising 80 per cent of all children; reducing the number of children who die before age five by one-third; to 70 deaths per 1,000 live births; and providing safe drinking water for every child.

The leaders will also be asked to commit themselves to eradicating polio and reducing measles by 90 per cent over the decade.

An international convention on children's rights has been ratified and will become effective on Sept. 3. UNICEF said Bangladesh, Benin and Sudan ratified it on Aug. 3, bringing the total to 22, two more than required.

It sets minimum standards for children's health, education and protection from exploitation.

In addition to addressing the direct needs of children, Grant sees the summit as a forum for discussing broader problems that affect them, such as debt relief. He described efforts by developing countries to pay their foreign debts as "economic hemorrhaging."

"In sub-Saharan Africa, for example, the economies are in such bad shape... in part because of

the debt crisis... that there are inadequate funds for the social sector," he said in an interview at UNICEF headquarters in New York.

The summit was proposed in the 1988 UNICEF report on "the state of the world's children." Canada, Egypt, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan and Sweden followed up in February with a formal call for the meeting.

U.S. President George Bush is among the national leaders who plan to attend. He will deliver the U.S. president's annual address to the U.N. General Assembly the day after the summit.

"Children are relatively low on the priority list of most countries," Grant said.

UNICEF estimates 8,000 children die every day from measles, whooping cough, tetanus and other diseases vaccination can prevent, and other 7,000 perish from being dehydrated by diarrhoea.

As many as 4,000 die each day because their mothers do not know how to breast feed them properly, the agency says. Most of these deaths occur in undeveloped countries.

One goal of the summit, Grant said, is to get commitments from governments to educate parents about the importance of vaccinations, breast feeding and preventing of illness.

"In the 1980s, many countries have demonstrated that it is possible to achieve many improvements in the health of children" by marshalling government and the media to educate parents, Grant said.

He said 10,000 children were saved every day because of such campaigns in the last decade, and another 20,000 can be saved each day in the 1990s if the world makes the commitment.

Washington mayor asks for forgiveness

WASHINGTON (R) — Washington Mayor Marion Barry has asked for forgiveness following his conviction for cocaine possession and said he hoped he would not face another trial on a dozen other drug-related charges on which the jury was deadlocked.

"Let their judgment be our last judgement," Barry told cheering supporters at a public meeting where he was greeted with chants urging him to seek another term in office.

Barry, who has been mayor of the U.S. capital for 12 years, has said he will not seek another term but has hinted he might seek a city council seat.

Barry, 54, a former civil rights activist who became one of America's most prominent black politicians, was found guilty Friday after a 10-week trial of one single count of possessing cocaine. As a first-time offender it is unlikely he will go to jail if his appeal is unsuccessful.

Barry accused prosecutors of "overreaching" and urged the news media to drop the matter so the city could heal. "Enough is enough," he pleaded.

Federal prosecutors were trying to decide whether to retry him on 12 counts on which a mistrial was declared after a jury of nine black women, one black man and two white men could not agree.

Barry said Saturday that the trial had divided the 70 per cent black District of Columbia and asked young or old, black or white for forgiveness.

"I'm praying that my strongest supporters can join hands with my greatest detractors and lay our burdens down," Barry said.

COLUMN

300,000 bikers converge on small U.S. town

STURGIS, South Dakota (AP) — All week long the authorities of this western town of 7,000 have struggled to contain an ocean of roaring motorcycles and tattooed bikers wrapped in enough leather to outfit the women of Chicago with purses. The 50th Black Hills Motor Classic, with bikers from every state and dozens of countries, rattled toward its official close Sunday. Police were breathing many sighs of relief. On Friday, when the crowd had swelled to around 300,000, police chief Jim Bush faced one of his most serious challenges — a showdown on Main Street between two motorcycle gangs. Luckily, the conflict broke off before knives were drawn. And Bush said the police involvement in cooling tempers was, shall we say, discreet. "We didn't break anything up. We just kind of stood back," he said. Thursday night, a lead biker of the Outlaws motorcycle gang smiled at a police officer, cocked his finger like a pistol and gave him a little "pow." It was a small gesture, more playful than menacing, but it signified some of the problems that Sturgis has had to cope with in putting on the world's largest motorcycle gathering.

Child win back Matisse painting

NEW YORK (AP) — The great-granddaughter of photographer Edward Steichen has won back a Matisse painting valued at \$800,000 after a legal battle with New York's Museum of Modern Art, according to a published report. But 6-year-old Ariana Rodina Calderone Stahmer probably will never see the painting in her home because it will be sold to cover legal bills her family has to pay, the New York Times reported in Sunday editions. The Times said the museum, settled out of court Friday but terms of the arrangement in federal court in Bridgeport, Connecticut, were not made public. The child's family spent more than \$100,000 in legal fees in the dispute, the newspaper reported. Henri Matisse presented Edward Steichen with the painting, *Vase de Collioure*, in 1908 to thank him for helping arrange the first U.S. exhibition of his works and to commemorate the birth of Steichen's daughter, Kate.

Bad reviews upset Shatner

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Actor William Shatner, famous on television as Captain James T. Kirk of the starship Enterprise, says bad reviews from critics upset him. Critics castigated last year's theatrical film *Star Trek V*, blaming the movie's creative and box office failure on Shatner's direction. So he was apprehensive about literary reviews of his first book. "In this business, we all want to be loved, and when someone says they don't like your work, they're saying, in effect, that they don't like you, so you suffer for it," he said in a recent interview.

Hot vents found at bottom of Siberian lake

WASHINGTON (AP) — Water heated and enriched by the fiery depths of the Earth has given rise to vast colonies of life at the bottom of Siberia's Lake Baikal, the world's oldest and deepest body of fresh water, scientists found. A team of U.S. and Soviet scientists found the colony of sponges, bacteria, worms, snails and fish 1,350 feet (411 metres) down in Lake Baikal and have